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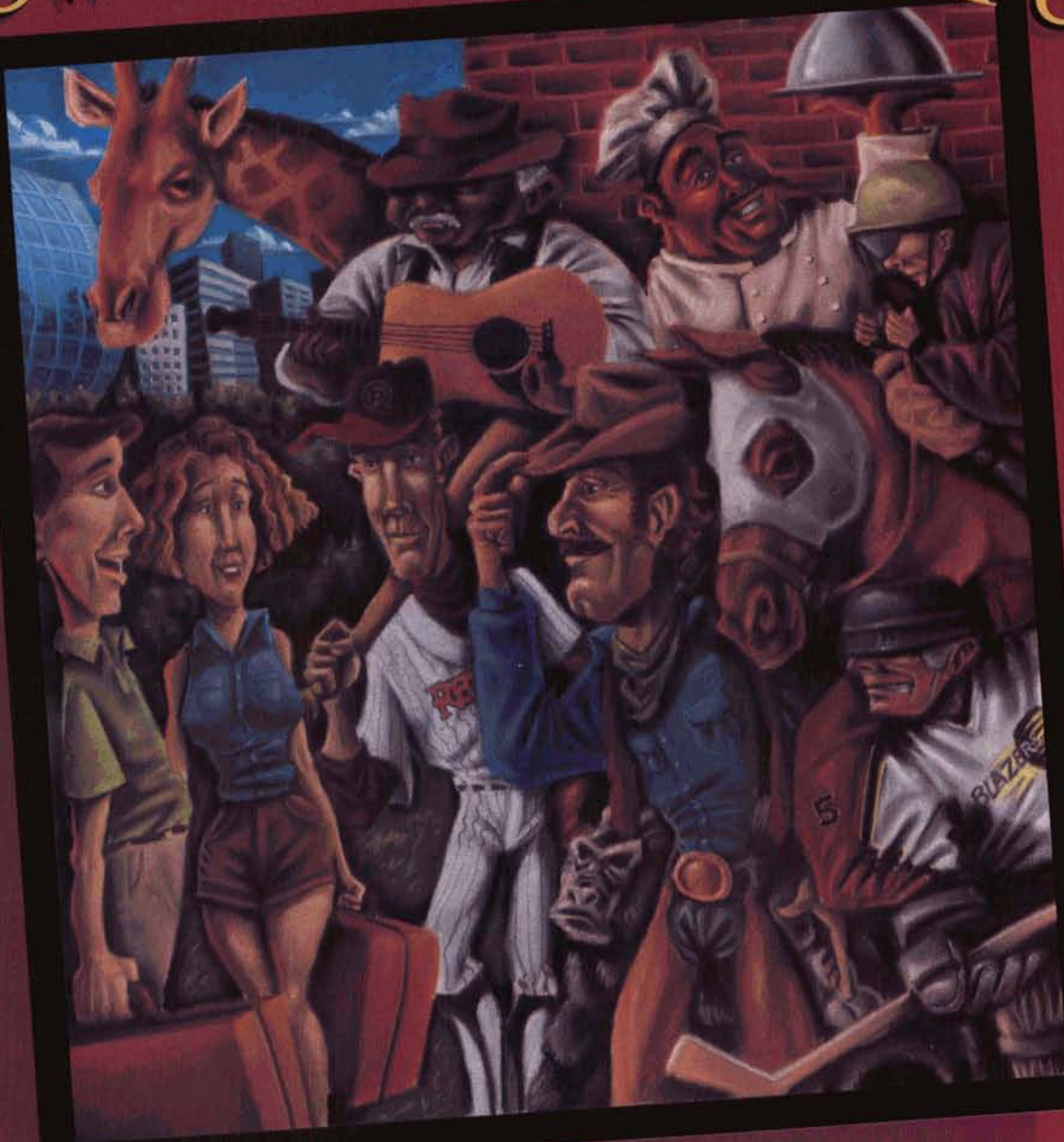
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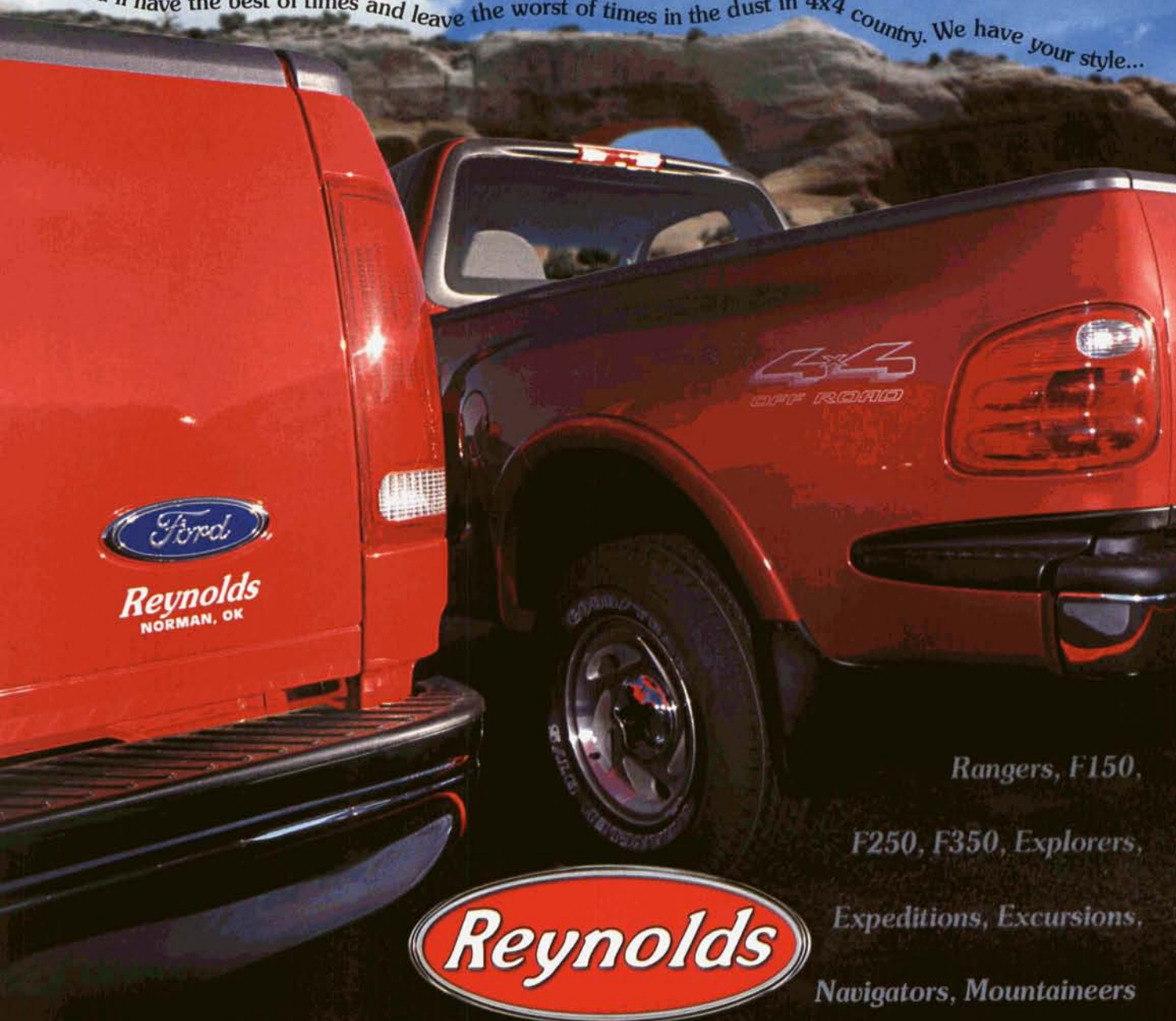
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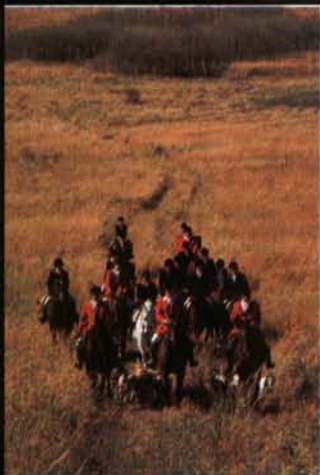
RICHARD DAY



JOHN ELK III



DAVID CRENSHAW



'As I climbed up the serpentine trail, a large smile spread across my face. The curves were so smooth; the view to my left got bigger and bigger, and I started to develop a rhythm. My passenger gave me a thumbs-up, and we began our dance across the ridge tops.'

—from 'Seven Great Outdoor Adventures' (page 42)

OKLAHOMA TODAY

MARCH • APRIL 2001
VOLUME 51 • NUMBER 3

FEATURES

Here on Earth 34

Light and dark combine to create a masterpiece—the landscape before us.
Photography by Yousef Khanfar

Seven Great Outdoor Adventures 42

Too much time on the couch? Seven authors give us their varying versions of the perfect outdoor escape. (Who knew building a tree house could be so enlightening?)

A Place of Peace and Rest 56

Ten years in the making, Ardmore's Shiloh Morning Inn proves that with vision and effort, dreams really do come true.

By Steffie Corcoran
Photography by Tom Luker

It's a Sign from God 62

In *Oklahoma Today's* second annual photo contest, readers prove they know a thing or two about flora and fawns.

Bahn Appetit 64

Far from their native Bavaria, Dieter Dorner and family have set up shop in Waynoka, serving delectable bratwurst and giving locals a good time in the process.

By Mimi Rippee
Photography by J.D. Merryweather

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Cover: Photograph by Hal Cantwell

CONTRIBUTORS

His is as all-American as it gets. **Randy Swanson**, one of seven contributing writers for this issue's fourteen-page cover package, "Seven Great Outdoor Adventures" (page 42), writes lovingly about Oklahoma City's Bricktown Ballpark and the Oklahoma RedHawks. A lifelong fan of the game, Swanson, pictured here at the ballpark with his oldest son David, proudly lays claim to two other young boys: Joel, eight, and Luke, five. When not found behind third base, Swanson, a government relations consultant, can likely be tracked down for some good old-fashioned policy wonking.



Oklahoma Today welcomes back contributing editor **Nancy Woodard**, who, with this issue, returns to writing for the magazine on a regular basis. Woodard, former *Oklahoma Today* senior editor, will once again be sourcing and writing Marketplace (page 12), for years a popular department. "Although it's only a two-page spread, it has always been one of my favorites, mostly because of its tight text, catchy subheads, great items, and large graphics," she says. Woodard, now a proprietor of an online business, also writes for *Midwest Living*.

With twenty years of experience behind him at eight Oklahoma newspapers, advertising director **Walt Disney** joined the *Oklahoma Today* staff in September 2000. "It is refreshing to work with the dedicated professionals at *Oklahoma Today*," says the OSU alum. "And, unlike some magazines, the integrity of our editorial product is never compromised by the promise of a story for advertising." Curious about his name? Disney, a distant relative of the original, was born in Bakersfield, California, the year Disneyland opened.



OKLAHOMA

Official Magazine of the
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Today

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COMPREHENSIVE

FROM THE EDITOR



All for One

NEVER SHOW A FOOL UNFINISHED WORK. TRUST YOURSELF. AND HIRE people smarter than you. All bits of advice that I recall frequently in the course of my work. That last suggestion, from John Kennedy Jr., I overheard him say one evening when I worked at *George*. His grandmother had given him the advice—good advice, I always thought.

For the most part, I've succeeded at that. And like a mother's advice to marry someone you genuinely like—obvious as it may seem—I too have succeeded in assembling an editorial staff I like. And love. At *Oklahoma Today*, "team" is more than an over-used, "Let's inspire the troops" kind of word. It's critical to what we do, this magazine getting to your hands, photocredits placed correctly, facts checked, language elevated from wooden to lyrical (at least we hope). From our designers at Walker Creative who skillfully package words with images, to the four-color service bureau of Cherokee Color who spend hours processing the prepress materials, to our editorial assistants who telephone all over kingdom come searching for information. We are a unit from the word go, and consequently we are bonded in head and heart.

That understanding, that connectedness, gives special meaning to OU's recent national championship. From Coach Bob Stoops on down to the trainer-in-training, the victory required every player and every staff member to fulfill his end of the bargain. An easy task—if you're committed.

That awareness lends particular significance to the recent deaths of those men and boys who played and worked for the OSU men's basketball team. To stand before thousands of mourners and eulogize an individual—or ten individuals—you spend the majority of your waking hours with, as Coach Eddie Sutton did on the last day of January, would at once be the ultimate tragedy and a priceless gift. To remember the dead so

personally and recognizably must be among the most painful blessings. I shudder at the thought of ever assuming the task.

Then again, they say to the scribblers of the world to write about that which you're most afraid...and that which makes you happy. Here goes.

Steffie is a gift to the English language, her wit and wisdom none can match. Aimée, a fresh petal with boundless enthusiasm and solid judgment. Joan, our fearless leader equipped with compassion and brains. Sunny Melanie Breeden, always up for feminine bonding and a thoughtful phone call. Andrea keeps us hip and sassy, Priscilla fashionably on our toes. Colleen is our organizer, always true to her word with dance moves to boot. Becky, our mother. Lisa, our quiet rock. Melanie Holt, a daily surprise with her charming giggle. Walt—you should see him on a mechanical bull—is a reminder that focus can be fun, too. Kim, with that smile, and Roger, oh Roger, those Twizzlers he brings and the sunglasses he wears.

OU football and OSU basketball—in victory and defeat—have given us the opportunity to reflect on our own teams, every player, every leader, every motion. Thanks, Stoops and Sutton, for the memories.



Editor Louisa McCune and publisher Joan Henderson at the Sooner Celebration on January 21.

Louisa McCune

mccune@OKLAHOMA

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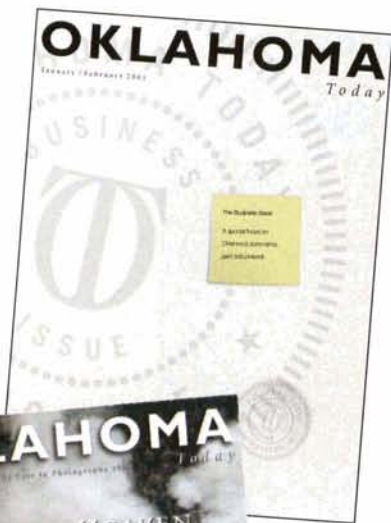


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The Business issue and the Year in Review reflect *Oklahoma Today's* new logo, redesigned after sixteen years.

Ever Better Quality Control

I received my copy of the latest *Oklahoma Today* (January-February 2001) and have enjoyed every word. Reading about Oklahoma businesses is always exciting, and you all did a marvelous job of picking who and what businesses to profile. The new mast is great, very distinctive, and—as Louisa McCune put it so well in her editor's letter—looks better every time you see it. Funny how our tastes change through the years. I looked at the pictures of those earlier masts and couldn't fathom having them on the magazine as it is now.

I especially liked reading the story on George Kaiser ("Money Talks"). After having worked in the oil industry on acquisition teams as long as I have, George Kaiser was often the talk around the conference table. From what I know of the man, your choice of questions captured him extremely well.

You are doing such a wonderful job bringing the magazine forward to new heights. A few months ago, I let one of my other editors borrow my archive copy of the Oil issue from several years back. She hadn't read the magazine in a number of years and was surprised at how much it had changed for the better. I said, "Wait until you've seen the newer issues," and took some recent ones by. She told me last week she'd sent in her subscription.

Joan Rhine
Claremore

Editor's response: While we fully realize Ms. Rhine writes for the magazine, we couldn't pass up the opportunity to publish her letter. She assures us, however, that this is not mere puffery.

Everybody Loves Company

Props again for an elegant *Oklahoma Today* magazine (January-February 2001). I learned a new meaning for two fairly common words, "flag" and "mast." The history of business in Oklahoma (page 36) is just the right sauce for your entrée of contemporary business developments in our home state. And in the portfolio, "In Good Company" (page 66), there you are, introducing the ten biggies in Oklahoma. Yes, "you're doin' fine, Oklahoma"; in fact, the editors of *Oklahoma Today* are fast becoming the grand chefs of literary cuisine.

O.W. Jones Jr.
La Jolla, California

Sixty-Six That

In your recent Business issue, on page 68 in "In Good Company," you write that Frank Phillips was sixty-six years old when Phillips Petroleum Company was started. In fact, when the company was incorporated on June 13, 1917, Frank Phillips was forty-three years old. At the first board of directors meeting on August 8, 1917, Frank Phillips was elected president and director, L.E. Phillips was elected vice president and director, and Henry E. Koopman was elected secretary-treasurer and director.

Frank Phillips turned sixty-six on November 28, 1939, with probably the biggest birthday bash Oklahoma has ever seen. The word sixty-six was not significant until 1927, when the company first mentioned it as a possible trademark. The first "Phillips Sixty-Six" appeared on the shield sign in 1928.

Thanks for a great magazine.

Jan Koopman Leye
Sun Valley, Idaho

Witchy Woman

Super job on the January-February 2001 issue. Your magazine is a great builder of Oklahoma pride, and the *Oklahoma Today* staff continues to produce one amazing issue after another. I especially enjoyed "In Good Company," which featured Sonic and Ditch Witch, two of our agency's most important clients. To be associated with two of the ten companies profiled is a very rewarding feeling for all of us at Fellers Marketing and Advertising.

Regarding the Ditch Witch logo: This internationally known icon features a friendly looking witch riding a shovel, not a broom as reported in the article. This makes more sense, especially since the Ditch Witch organization is the world leader in the service line trenching, directional drilling, and underground construction industry.

Again, congratulations on another great issue. Keep up the good work!

John Odgers
Director of Creative Services
Fellers Marketing and Advertising
Oklahoma City

A Winning State

I really enjoy your magazine. The latest issue, the Year in Review 2000, is great as well. I just wanted to mention a couple of national championships that were not in the issue. In May, the Oklahoma State University women's equestrian team won (in its first year) the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association national title in western team competition in Atlanta, Georgia.

In June, the Oklahoma State University men's golf team won their ninth national championship in Alabama under legendary coach Mike Holder. Charles Howell, a junior, also took the individual championship of the tournament. (Howell, who was also voted the Big 12's Athlete of the Year, passed up his senior year at OSU to turn pro).

Thanks for the wonderful issues!

David Johnson
Tulsa

We're Blushing

We just got our copy of the Year in Review 2000 yesterday, and let me tell you, it looks awesome. Everything is put together so well, and the cover is beautiful! (I really like the masthead redesign, also.) Of course, I'm a huge OU fan, so I loved the Oklahoman of the Year article and the accompanying pictures on OU and their well-deserved victory ("Back on Top"). Since we've moved to Texas, I hadn't heard about

some of those notable people who died and was quite saddened ("Farewell").

I normally just browse through the magazine when it arrives and then try to really read through it on the weekend, but this time I actually sat down and looked through it from front to back before I even took my shoes off to relax. I'm still finishing some of the articles because I was so excited to see what else was in the issue.

This one is definitely award winning. Congratulations on an excellent issue.

Kelly Tyler
Irving, Texas

gratulations. Keep up the good work. Our guests love your product, too.

Phyllis Murray
The Montford Inn
Norman

Great Review

Just wanted to write a quick note and tell you how impressed I was with your latest issue featuring the Oklahoma Sooner football team on the cover (Year in Review 2000). Excellent photography, design, and content.

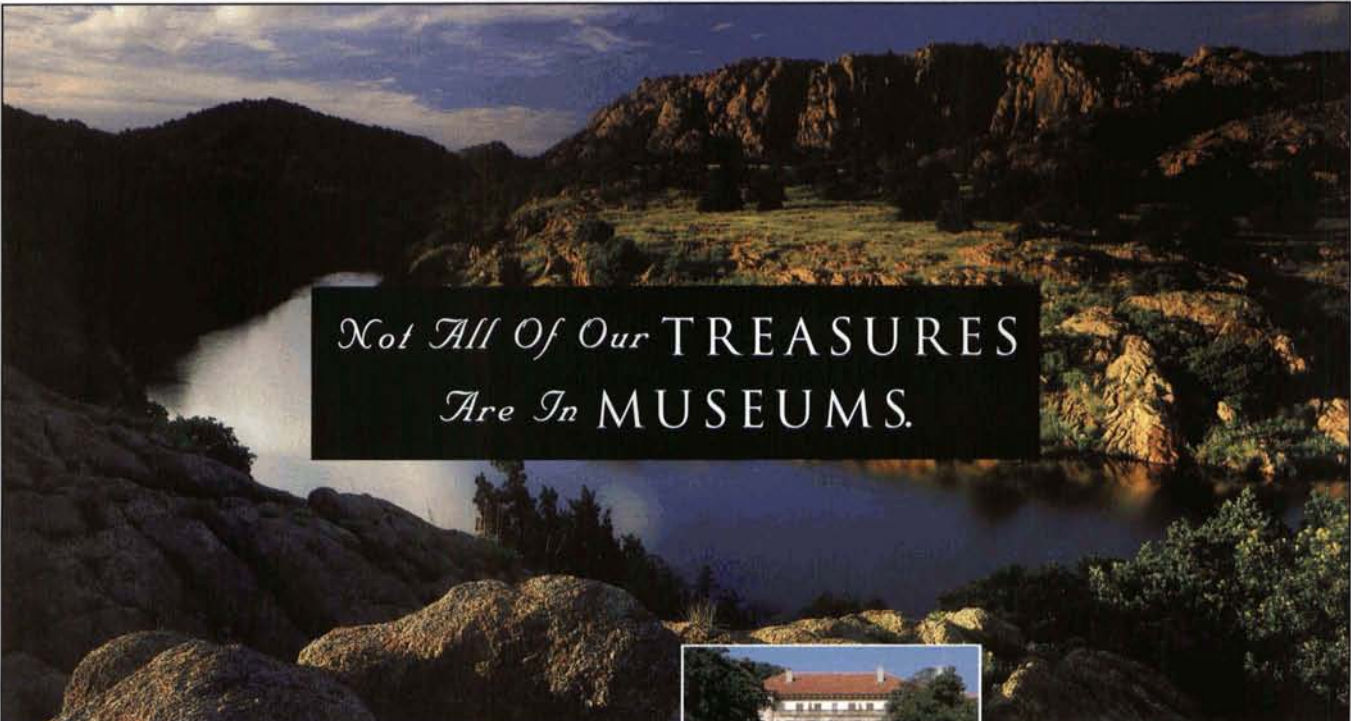
Chad Willming
Edmond

From the Guest Book

Oklahoma Today continues to be tops. I can't tell you what a delight it is to receive each issue. Every month we marvel as we believe, "It can't be better," and lo and behold, it is.

The creativity, photos, writing, format, and styling—you are great, and it seems you don't miss a thing. Con-

Oklahoma Today welcomes the views of readers. Letters are subject to editing and must include name, address, and a daytime phone number. Send letters to: *Oklahoma Today*, Attn. Editor, P.O. Box 53384, Oklahoma City, OK 73152 or fax to (405) 522-4588. Address electronic mail to letters@oklahomatoday.com.



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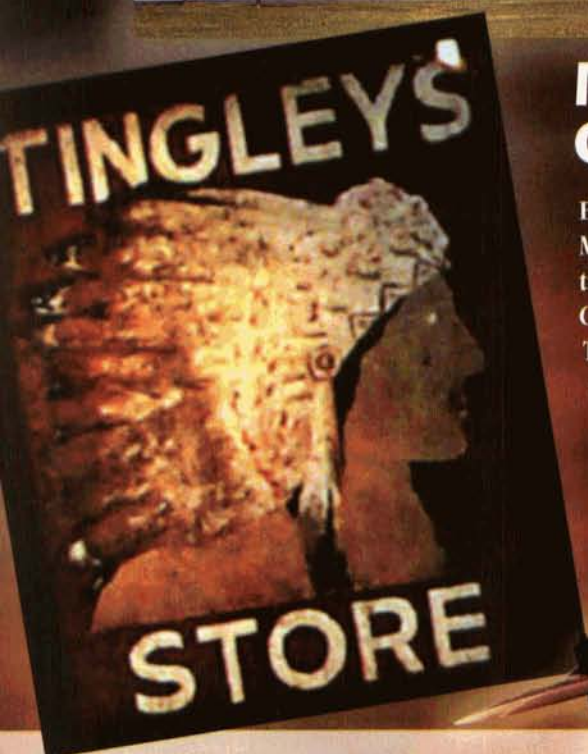
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BY NANCY WOODARD

PIECES OF THE

MUSEUM

From castle puzzles to space ice cream, check out these mementos from some of the most happening museums in the state.

Monkey Sea, Monkey Do

Once found only between the pages of comic book ads, the sea monkeys in this space shuttle expedition at Oklahoma City's Omniplex have gone high-tech. Complete with high-beam light switch, built-in magnifier, and bubbler, these tiny crustaceans even come with a two-year guaranteed life span. Just add water. \$21.95. Omniplex, (405) 602-3763.

All in the Family

This plastic, five-inch *Allosaurus* doesn't inspire any fear, but the cast bones of the thirty-nine-foot-long, meat-eating *Saurophaganax maximus* (another allosaurid) on display at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History in Norman will. Since the *Saurophaganax* has only been found in Oklahoma, it has yet to be reduced to toy size. Closest toy kin, the *Allosaurus*, \$7.25. Excavations gift shop, (405) 325-7815.

Go Ahead, Bug Me

This sterling silver and Baltic amber-studded dragonfly pin is one among many at the Sam Noble museum. Also on hand: a spider-in-a-web pin and ladybug earrings. Dragonfly, \$100. Excavations, (405) 325-7815.





Out of This World

These ever-popular, freeze-dried ice cream sandwiches give all ages a taste for space. Frozen to minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit and vacuum-packed, these treats were originally designed for the early Apollo missions. \$1.85. Omniplex, (405) 602-3763.

Letting the Walls Down

One of only a handful of museums in the United States with a section of the former Berlin Wall, the Omniplex parades its 2,200-pound slab, "Kings of Freedom," on everything from puzzle post cards to computer mousepads. Mug, \$4.95. (405) 602-3763.



Hatchet Job

This Navajo folk art chicken was carved with a hatchet out of cottonwood by New Mexico's Alonzo Herbert. That and some gouging chisels make these whimsical chickens a favorite item at Tulsa's Gilcrease Museum. Twelve inches tall with raffia tail feathers, \$32. (918) 596-2725.



Lions and Tigers and Bears

Thanks to this colorful, lightweight foam visor from the Oklahoma City Zoo, many a child has kept his hat on and stayed out of the sun. Also available: giraffe, chimpanzee, shark, and toucan. \$6.95 each. (405) 425-0268.

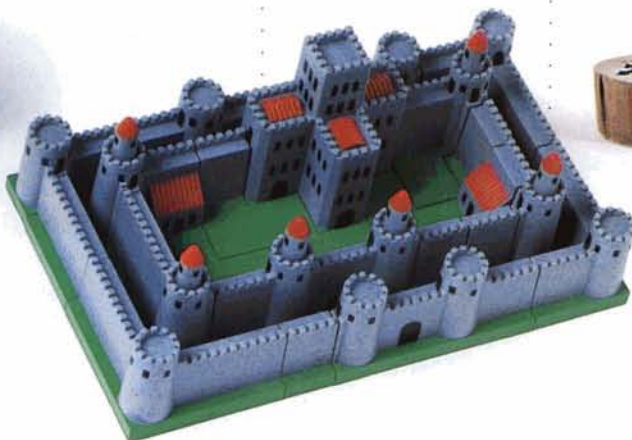


Trail's End

This four and a half-inch bronze replica of the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum's eighteen-foot-tall "End of the Trail" original plaster statue is shelved at the Oklahoma City museum's gift shop, Trappings of the West. Replica with green marble base, \$30.95. (405) 478-2250.

Puzzle Royale

It only takes twelve puzzle pieces to put together this 3-D Camelot—a fitting purchase, considering Leonardo's has an indoor castle area and outdoor castle-shaped playground. \$11.99. Leonardo's Gizmos gift shop, Enid, (580) 233-2787.



Buyer Beware!

Shopping Adventures at Route 66 Traders Market

THEY SAY THE THRILL OF THE ADVENTURE CAN BE ITS OWN reward. If that's true, for adventurous shoppers, the Route 66 Traders Market is quite a find. This safari-themed, upscale flea market located west of Yukon off historic Route 66 boasts acres and acres of entertainment, shopping, and activities.

Open since March 2000, the Route 66 Traders Market offers approximately 200 booths under a 57,000-square-foot outdoor pavilion and an additional 100 uncovered booths, where vendors sell a variety of merchandise. Products range from the everyday to the exotic and include concrete yard art, Kettle Corn Popcorn, foil art, jewelry made of sterling flatware, and the usual antiques and collectibles.

But this is not your run-of-the-mill flea market. When customers first get to the office's parking area, they pull up in front of a fire hydrant marking each space. The office's exterior is themed with Route 66 memorabilia: stucco walls with embedded bowling balls, a collection of backlit hubcaps, a restored 1950s Phillips 66 sign with the market's white elephant logo, and front porch poles made of auger bits.

In addition to its unique style, Route 66 is a haven for the whole family. The traders market has a Moon Bounce and Kids Zone, a landscaped rest area, and a food court which features the Safari Grill, a tiger-striped diner made of welded-together school buses and decorated with arrows and flamingos. The Safari Grill serves burgers and hot dogs for hungry shoppers.

Sunday mornings, various vendors attend nondenominational church services held at the market. On the first and third Sunday of each month, tools and furniture are auctioned on the property. Special events also dot the calendar throughout the year. During 2000, entertainment included a pet parade, Christmas in July complete with Hawaiian Santa, Elvis impersonators, and a car show.

General manager Julie McKenzie says this year, there will be even more events. "What we're trying to do," she says, "is get people who wouldn't normally go to a flea market to go out." Events already scheduled for 2001 include a car show at the end of March and an April craft show.

McKenzie says that another new addition this season will be a weather screen around the north perimeter of the flea market, which will cut down on wind and rain and make for a more comfortable shopping experience.

Route 66's unique approach to the old flea market idea has certainly gotten people interested. McKenzie says anywhere from 3,000 to 5,000 people visit each weekend. During the grand opening weekend last year, an estimated 15,000 to 18,000 shoppers stopped by. This year, the folks at the Route 66 Traders Market may very well be seeing even bigger and better things.

—Sheldon Beach

Between March and November, the market is open Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parking and admission are free. The Route 66 Traders Market is located between Interstate 40 and Route 66 at 3201 North Richland Road in Yukon. (405) 350-3366, rt66traders.com.



FIRST RUN

The Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon

Boston has one. So does Los Angeles. Ditto San Diego. And this spring, Oklahoma City will have one, too.

On April 29, Oklahoma City will join the growing roster of cities hosting major spring marathons. Dot Hensley, director of the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon, expects that the inaugural 26.2-mile race will attract more than 3,000 runners and walkers. She also hopes to see another 2,000 or so participants sweating it out in two and four-person marathon relays.

The race will begin and end at the Oklahoma City National Memorial. In between, participants will take an exhausting tour of the city, visiting such landmarks as the Myriad Gardens, Bricktown, the State Capitol, and Lake Hefner. "We wanted the race to pass through as many interesting parts of the city

as possible," explains Hensley. "This marathon will showcase the best of Oklahoma City."

Hensley emphasizes that the marathon is not just for runners.

"We would like to see a lot of walkers out there," she says. "We will keep the course and the finish line open until the very last person comes home."

All race proceeds will benefit the Oklahoma City National Memorial. "With this marathon, we can honor the bombing victims, survivors, and rescue workers," says Hensley. "And at the same time, we can celebrate life and raise funds for the memorial."

—Adam Buckley Cohen

Registration fees are \$60 for the marathon, \$35 per person for a two-person relay, and \$30 per person for a four-person relay. (405) 525-4242, okcmarathon.com.

Feasts of the Famous

Celebrity Cookbook Benefits Tulsa Food Bank

EVER WONDER WHAT THE state's well known serve up for special dinners and late-night desserts? Now, thanks to the Tulsa Community Food Bank, the gastronomical delights of some of Oklahoma's finest have been made public in *Table to Table: The Oklahoma Collection*, a new cookbook benefiting the organization.

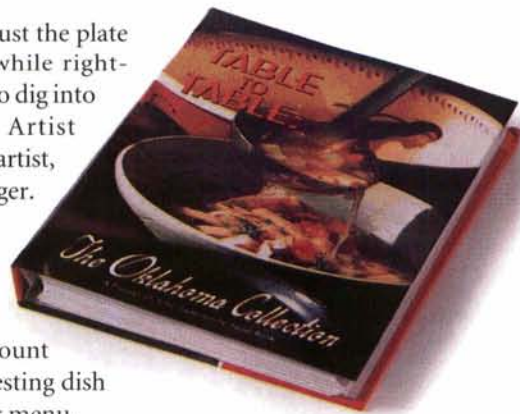
The book includes favorite recipes of Sooner-state celebrities, politicians, and entertainers, delicacies like author William Bernhardt's Syllabub, a Victorian dessert, and Olympic gold medalist Nadia Comaneci's traditional Romanian eggplant spread. Expecting a big football crowd? Troy Aikman's meat

loaf recipe may be just the plate for their palates, while right-brainers may want to dig into the Many-Hued Artist Medley of feminist, artist, and activist Dana Tiger.

With contributions from Governor Frank Keating, Ronnie Dunn, and Wilma Mankiller, count on finding an interesting dish sure to mix up your menu.

—Andrea Lopez Walker

Table to Table, \$17.95, is available at several Tulsa locations, including Steve's Sundries, the Book Place, the Curiosity Shop of Tulsa, and the Gilcrease Museum Shop. You may also purchase the book at dineoutright.com or call (918) 585-2862. The book benefits the Tulsa Community Food Bank, which distributed 5.8 million pounds of food and products to member services in 1999. (918) 585-2800.

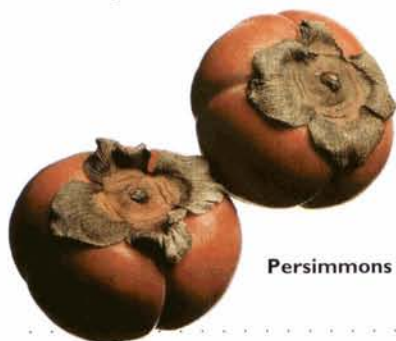


AU NATUREL

Red Dirt Gardens: Trail Food Adventures

By Mary Logan Wolf

CREAM OF CHICKWEED SOUP? Stir-fried dandelion? Forget those sugar-loaded energy bars and boot heel beef jerky; we're talking real trail food here. So it goes for earthy epicureans for whom dining "out" means gathering, preparing, and eating the edible, unbridled plants of Oklahoma. Wild, 'eh?



Persimmons

From papaws, persimmons, and pecans to backyard weeds, Mother Nature stocks an abundant kitchen for adventuresome souls who prefer their Oklahoma outings a little on the wild side. A naturalist for the Martin Park Nature Center in Oklahoma City, Neil Garrison conducts workshops on edible wild plants and is considered a regional aficionado of authentic trail food. Wild plants, Garrison says, can provide a plentiful table.

"There are old mushroom hunters and bold mushroom hunters, but no old, bold mushroom hunters," Garrison says, speaking of his favorite trail nosh, the morel mushroom. "The morel is the easiest mushroom to identify and a sure bet

for those who want to play it safe." Unlike other mushrooms, the morel sports no poison look-alike and generally appears around Easter, poking its wrinkled head through the damp forest floors of eastern Oklahoma. To harvest, snip the morel off just above the ground. Sautéed with butter or fried, this wild cuisine will impress the most discerning gourmet.

When harvesting any wild food, Garrison abides by the rule of three: Leave three plants to al-



Morel mushrooms



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An all-too-common dandelion

low for new plants next growing season. That rule bends when it comes to the dandelion. Introduced to this country by the Pilgrims as a food source, the dandelion thrives despite most homeowners' attempts to eradicate it. Like it or not, all its parts are edible, but flavor is prime in the spring. Toss the leaves to make a salad, stir-fry the greens with other vegetables, or boil the roots and serve like carrots.

Ever eat a cattail? Probably not, but

famed naturalist and Grape Nuts spokesperson Euell Gibbons once referred to the cattail as "the supermarket of the swamp" for good reason: Tender shoots from this marshland inhabitant make an excellent boiled vegetable; mature stalks peeled to the core can be eaten raw, pickled, or mixed with other veggies; young flower spikes—stripped, boiled, then drizzled with butter and salt—resemble Southern-style grits; and pollen from the cattail and its starchy rhizomes make an interesting secret ingredient when added to a favorite bread recipe.

From wild onions and watercress to gooseberries and hog peanuts, the number of edible wild plants found in Oklahoma will astound you, Garrison says. "You will be able to munch in the woods safely. It's always best to do so from a standpoint of knowledge."

If foraging for wild fare intrigues you, check out these references: Peterson's *Edible Wild Plants* field guide, *Edible and*

Useful Plants of Texas and the Southwest, and the *Handbook of Edible Plants and Weeds*, all of which can be ordered in local bookstores. Be sure to carry them with you on your outings.

HAL CANTWELL



Cattails grow in a Cleveland County pond.

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All Deco, All the Time

Retro at the World Art Deco Conference in Tulsa

By Joan Rhine • Photography by David Halpern

THE WORLD IS COMING TO TULSA, AND EVERYONE IS invited. The Sixth World Congress on Art Deco, running April 18 through 22, will draw aficionados from around the globe to view the architecture that once gave Tulsa the nickname, "Terra Cotta City."

Now little more than a hundred years old, Tulsa was a babe on the prairie when the first oil boom hit Oklahoma. With wildcats dotting the plains and money flowing as fast as black gold, early oil barons wanted nothing but the best for their business hometown and thus created a downtown of terra cotta towers reaching for the sky. These wealthy men hired the brightest stars on the architectural horizon, demanding the trim lines, eye-catching details, and modernist architectural elements known today as art deco. Now, at the dawn of the new millenium, those same build-

ings, tiled and decorated in the classic vogue of decades past, draw decophiles who come to pay homage.

All the rage during the years between the World Wars, particularly from 1920 to 1939, art deco is an evolution of style, drawing energy from such varying sources as Egyptian antiquities and art nouveau, its influence reaching into the 1950s. Art deco used geometry and design to blend diverse decorating touches: vibrant colors, natural elements like florals, waterfalls, and sunbursts, or stylized gears and wheels celebrating the rise of technology and commerce. Tulsa is blessed with a range in styles from Neo-Gothic to streamlined modern.

Kicking off the five-day event will be a walking tour of Tulsa's distinctive downtown district. Progressing through such deco buildings as the old National Bank of Tulsa, the Gillette-Tyrrell Building, and Riverside Studio, attendees will enter soaring lobbies, take in breathtaking floor-to-ceiling vistas, marvel at intricate deco details, and step back to a time when opulence called the shots.

"The style blossomed and really came to world attention after 1925," explains Rex Ball, chairman of the sixth congress and a retired architect and urban designer.

Organizers will highlight

Empire Fixture Company of Sand Springs fabricated this elaborate chandelier for the Philcade in 1932.

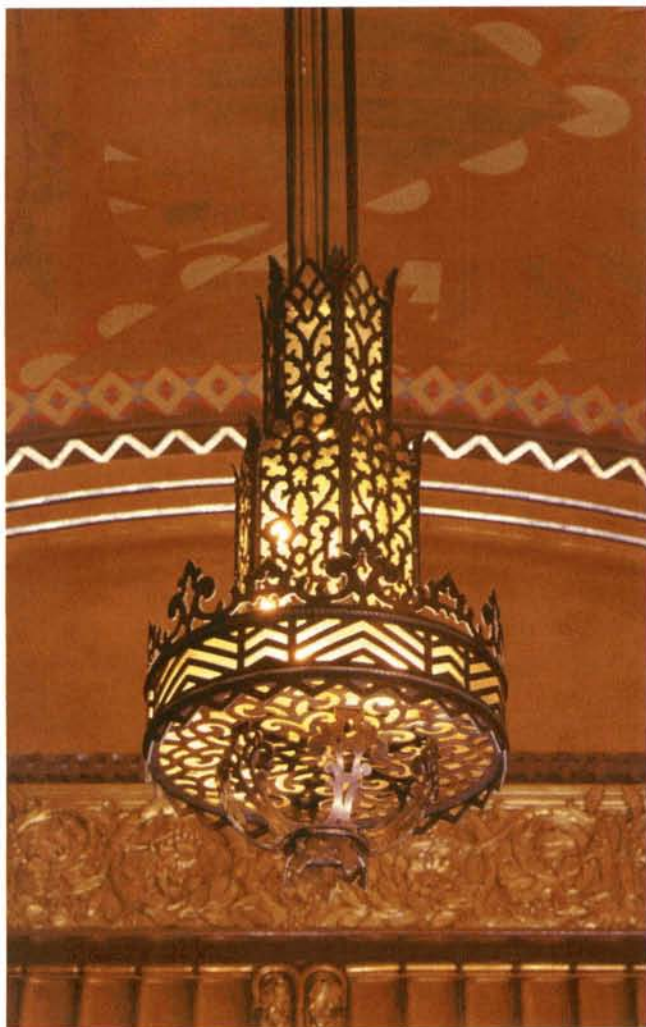
homegrown architectural talent with conference sessions and tours exploring the genius of Bruce Goff. An admirer of Frank Lloyd Wright, Goff teamed with his former University of Tulsa art teacher, Adah Robinson, to design Tulsa's jewel-in-the-deco-crown, the Boston Avenue United Methodist Church.



Bruce Goff designed this unique space located at 1119 South Owasso Avenue for his former University of Tulsa teacher, Adah Robinson, in 1923.

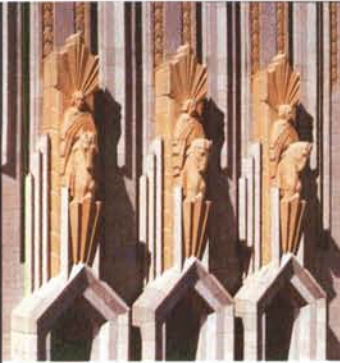
While controversy lingers about whether Goff or Robinson is the true designer, the soaring Deco-Gothic lines and spires emphasize how the contributions of both Robinson and Goff have combined to achieve Tulsa's greatest, world-class architectural masterpiece.

"From an architectural point of view, it was a true collaboration," says Ball. "Robinson gave the leadership and was the artist of the symbols, Goff the designer, and [the architectural firm] Rush Endacott Rush—the often overlooked portion of the team—the technician/engineer."





An exterior deco detail of the Philcade, circa 1932



Detailing of terra cotta circuit riders on the Boston Avenue United Methodist Church

Other tours include the area's Public Works Administration buildings and deco residences and businesses (among them, Tulsa Union Depot), with meals and programs scheduled for the Philbrook and Gilcrease Museums. The final day is devoted to a road trip up Highway 75 to Bartlesville. There, attendees will receive an extended tour of Price Tower, the only high-rise designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, and view the two-story studio and apartment Bruce Goff occupied there. The day's events

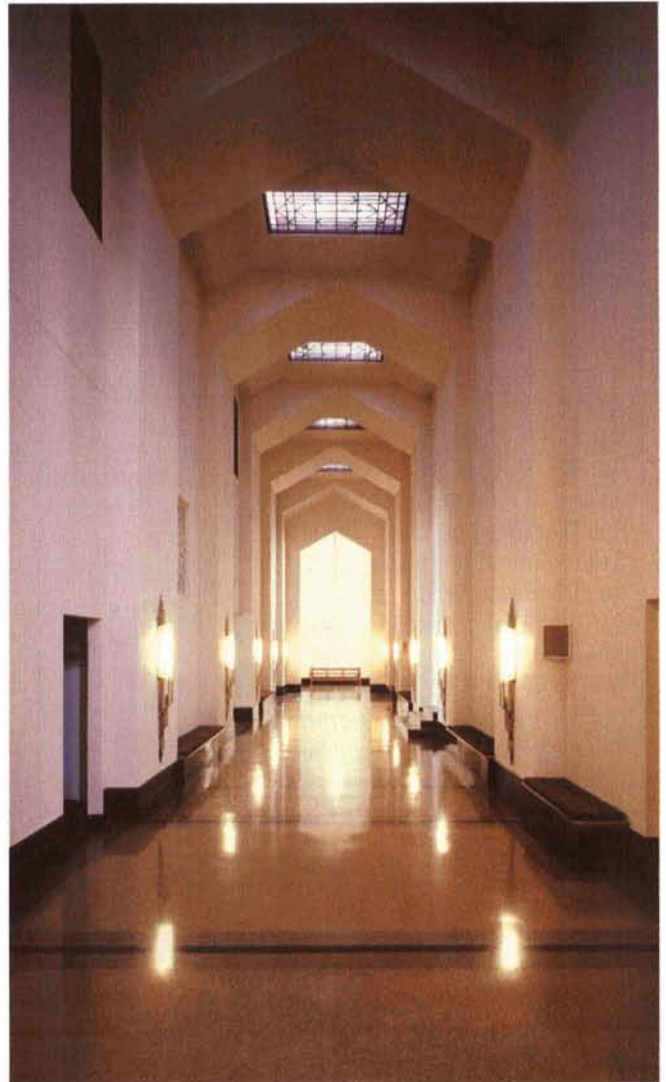
will also include a tour of Hillside, Wright's other major work in Bartlesville, still a residence of the original owner, Carolyn Price.

Art deco's use of precious materials and flamboyant decorations is believed chiefly responsible for its falling out of favor as fortunes shifted in the 1930s. Many deco buildings throughout the world have become victims of urbanization and a growing need for additional parking space.

The theme for the sixth congress, "Deco—Where Did It Go?," will focus on how the preservation efforts of groups like the congress and cities like Tulsa can keep excitement for art deco stronger than the wrecking ball.

Right, The Great Hall of the Boston Avenue United Methodist Church, designed in 1926 and completed in 1929

Below, A view of the Boston Avenue church sanctuary



Held every two years, the World Congress on Art Deco promotes the style worldwide, networks to raise public awareness, identifies sites and monuments, and promotes conservation and preservation. The Tulsa conference will take place April 18 through April 22 and is sponsored by the Tulsa Historical Society and hosted jointly by the Eastern Oklahoma Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the Tulsa Architectural Foundation, and the Tulsa Preservation Commission. Before March 17, enrollment for the five-day event is \$300; after that date, the fee will be \$330. For more information or to enroll, contact the Tulsa Historical Society at P.O. Box 521145, Tulsa, OK 74152-1145, or by phone at (918) 712-9484. tulsahistory.org.

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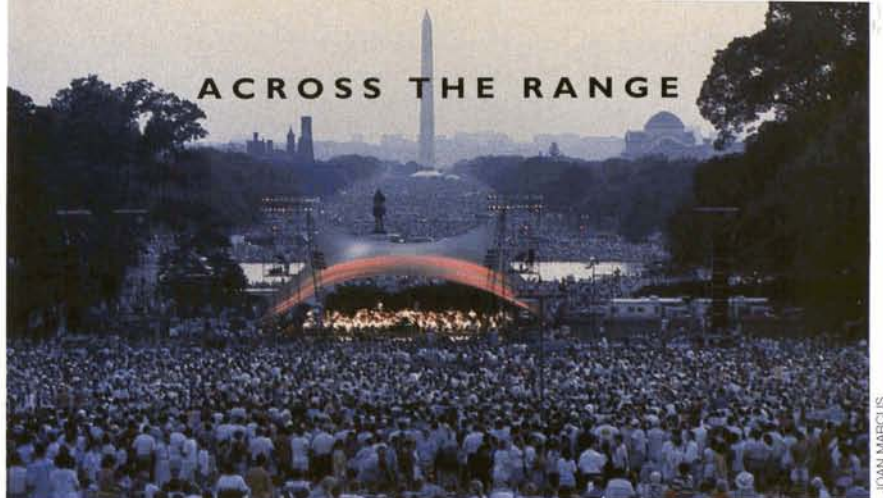
"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I —
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference."
— Robert Frost, 1874-1963

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The National Symphony Orchestra on the west lawn of the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

MAKING BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

THE NATIONAL SYMPHONY COMES TO OKLAHOMA

THIS MARCH, A SPECTACULAR SERIES OF MUSICAL EVENTS WILL UNFOLD in Oklahoma. By invitation of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic and the Oklahoma Arts Council, the National Symphony Orchestra American Residency from the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts will perform throughout the state for nine days.

Joel Levine, music director for the Oklahoma City Philharmonic, says, "In the past, we've brought guest artists to Oklahoma for performances and master classes for students. Well, this time, an entire symphony orchestra is coming to town."

The 2000-2001 season is Leonard Slatkin's fifth as music director for the NSO. His tenure includes European and Asian tours, four American residencies, and a 1996 Grammy for best classical recording. Slatkin, whose international demand as a guest conductor takes him around the world, is passionate about his work on behalf of arts education.

A new kind of tour with education its primary focus, the National Symphony's residency program began in 1992. Oklahoma is an ideal partner for the exclusive residency, Levine says. "We are not only about performing but education, however we can do it. We could not deny the performing arts students of Oklahoma this opportunity."

Outreach opportunities are abundant and foster a continuing relationship between the two organizations. A teacher fellowship and up to six student scholarships for a summer music institute complete the exchange. The residency will also commission a composition from an Oklahoman for a National Symphony Orchestra performance at the Kennedy Center.

And indeed, performances are the real heart of the residency. The National Symphony will give chamber concerts and nine full orchestral performances across the state, including two free concerts—for students only—at Rose State College Performing Arts Theater.

And much of the good news stays in Oklahoma, long after the residency has passed: Proceeds from ticket sales remain with the community arts organizations that coordinate the performances.

"These performances are a once in a lifetime event for the citizens of Oklahoma," Levine says.

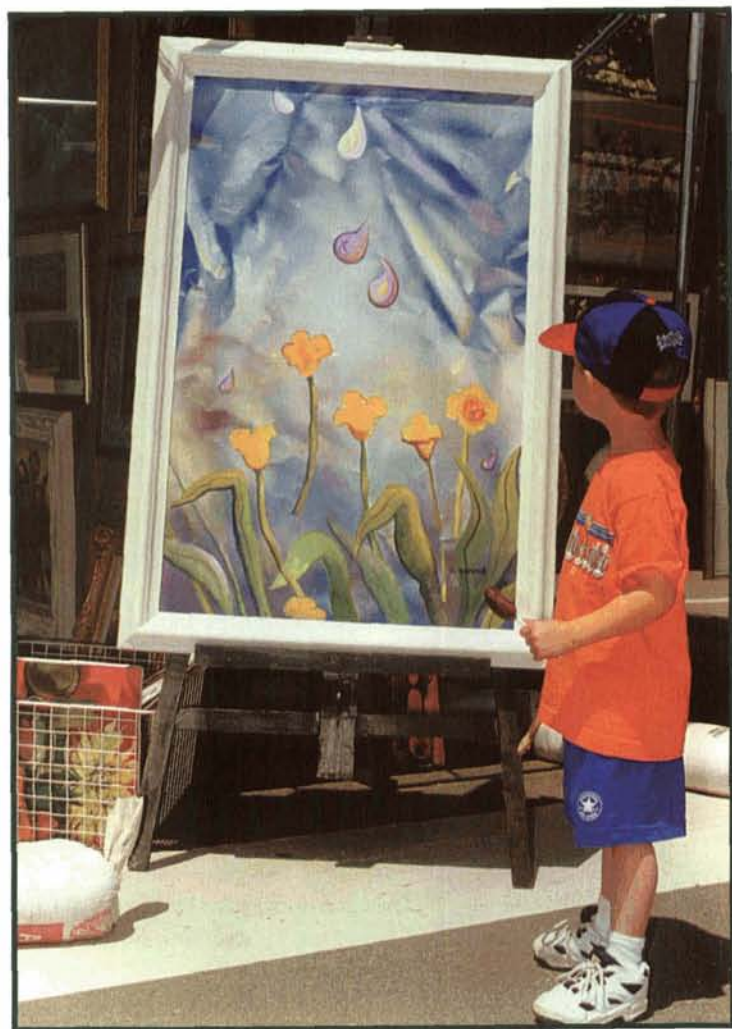
—Diana Khanagov

The National Symphony Orchestra residency, funded by grants from the United States Department of Education and National Endowment for the Arts, will take place at locations around the state between March 14 and 23. okcphilharmonic.org.

NATIONAL SYMPHONY PERFORMANCES

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March 15, 7:30 p.m.
- **Hutchins Memorial Auditorium**, Ponca City
March 17, 7:30 p.m.
- **Rose State College Performing Arts Theater**, Midwest City
March 19 and 20, 8 p.m.
March 20, 10 and 11:30 a.m. (for students)
- **McMahon Memorial Auditorium**, Lawton
March 21, 7:30 p.m.
- **Tulsa Performing Arts Center**, March 22, 8 p.m.
- **Bartlesville Community Center**, March 23, 7:30 p.m.

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JOHN ROGERS FOWLER, FISH SCULPTOR TO THE RICH AND FAMOUS



PHONE SOLICITATIONS ARE THE bane of Sunday dinner, but when it's Tom Brokaw on the line, fish sculptor John Rogers Fowler is happy to take the call. Whether it's Brokaw, Jack Nicklaus, or Ted Turner, Fowler's clients have one thing in common—they love fish.

Fowler, a native Texan and one of only a handful of fish sculptors in the country, lives and works in Perkins in a house he built himself. His fish-shaped mailbox lets visitors know they're in the right place.

An avid fisherman, Fowler often visited art galleries in the best fishing communities in the country. Whether fly-fishing in Montana or deep-sea fishing in the Florida Keys, Fowler found area galleries had one thing in common: They lacked quality fish sculptures.

Ten years ago, Fowler, formerly in sales, and his wife and business partner, Cathy, decided to become full-time artists. Though he refers to those who create art for art's sake as "the true artists," Fowler, who commissions approximately forty to fifty pieces a year, is grateful that he and his wife can make a living fashioning the slippery animals about which he is so passionate. "Fish, even tiny fish, are so complex in their appearance—the way they reflect light in dozens of colors. Of all the creatures in nature, fish are the prettiest because they reflect light. That's what makes them interesting, like diamonds," Fowler says.

Many of Fowler's clients follow the ethical practice of catch and release. Fowler believes this method makes fishermen look

at the fish more closely. Rotating a fish in the sunlight, Fowler finds a kaleidoscope of colors.

Fowler realized that in order to make his fish marketable, he had to do two things. One, he had to find a medium which highlights the fish's true beauty. Two, he must market to people with a true passion for fish, mostly those who travel to the exclusive fishing communities, especially in

Florida and the Rocky Mountain area, and city galleries like those in New York and San Francisco.

Previous techniques produced dull-colored sculptures made from bronze or ceramic. "What we wanted to do was create a sculpture that would stand out like a sore thumb in a gallery," Fowler says. "One that would be totally different than anything people had seen. Adding color to polished metal was completely different. And it's transparent color, so when light hits it, the light is reflected back through the color." The medium Fowler chose is polished stainless steel.

Fowler completes nearly every step himself. Unlike other sculptors, who send their work to a foundry for reproduction, Fowler grinds, polishes, and applies color details to all pieces, including limited editions.

Fowler's art graces the homes and offices of such celebrities as golfer Greg Norman and vice president Dick Cheney. The starting price for a desk-size sculpture is \$900, with prices for larger works climbing into the tens of thousands of dollars.

Though Fowler's work is not currently available in Oklahoma galleries, it will be part of the Oklahoma Aquarium in Jenks, scheduled to open in summer 2002. The sculpture, Fowler's first outdoor work, will feature three large striped bass.

—Natalie Lawrence



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Wild

WHERE THE THINGS ARE
ANIMALS ARE A BIG DEAL AT LITTLE RIVER ZOO

THAT RECURRING NIGHTMARE about being chased by a tiger is as close as some people ever get to interaction with big African wildcats. Not so for the people at Little River Zoo in Norman.

In fact, for the zoo staff, walking an African serval on a leash seems like child's play, especially when it's for an audience of twelve year olds.

Open since October 1996 and visited by nearly 50,000 people each year since, the Little River Zoo is located on fifty-five heavily wooded acres just off Highway 9 in east Norman.

"It's a very natural setting, very relaxing," says zoo director Janet Schmid. The private zoo, funded almost entirely with donations, features 400 different animals from more than 100 species—caracals and bobcats, capuchins and spider monkeys.

One thing that sets it apart from other zoos, though, is that visitors are allowed to be much closer to the animals: The zoo's pathway goes right up to the cages. "It's more hands-on," says tour guide Julie Derrington, pointing out the basic philosophical difference between Little River and much larger

public zoos. "I think the kids like knowing the animals' names." The zoo is home to a monkey named Mr. Bailey, two black bears, Blossom and Delilah, and the aforementioned serval, Raz.

At Little River Zoo, visitors are encouraged not just to look at the animals, but to learn about wildlife and conservation from them, too. Some of the animals have been rescued, like two black bears whose parents were killed by hunters and a puma once kept as a pet.

At the conclusion of the tour, visitors end up at the zoo's barnyard area. Here, they can feed the llamas, goats, and miniature horses.

Schmid says that the children's programs in particular are geared toward teaching what she calls humane education. "Some children spend all of their time with computers and video games.

Little River's programs give them a chance to feel connected with animals and to respect life," she says.

The "You Can Make a Difference" program is one example. It includes a guided tour, followed by discussion on how the children can make a difference in the environment and in the lives of animals.

The zoo also has educational animals that make trips to schools and exhibitions. A traveling band of tortoises, lynx, porcupines, and servals has visited a number of schools and libraries in the area.

A grant was also recently approved for the addition of a protective wetlands area. "We've got a lot of growth on the horizon," says Schmid. Only eight of the fifty-five acres have been developed.

Five years in the making, the folks at Little River Zoo are making dreams come true, saving exotic animals' lives, and teaching about humanity in the process.

—Sheldon Beach

Little River Zoo is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$3 for seniors and children ages 3 to 11. 3405 Southeast 120th Avenue in Norman. (405) 366-7229, littleriverzoo.com.





Butterfly and Oscar Ray

To the Bone

A Muskogee Film Festival Offers Filmmakers a New Stage

By Joel Everett

SHIRON "BUTTERFLY" AND OSCAR RAY'S BARE BONES INTERNATIONAL FILM Festival may not be the biggest independent film festival around, but its message is distinct. Set apart from its bigger cousins like Cannes, Sundance, and Austin's South by Southwest Film Festival, the Muskogee event accepts entries only from films with budgets under \$1 million. Additionally, an aspiring moviemaker can enter for around \$50, and the host motel, Budget Inn, has rates that won't take the shirt off your back. Since most Bare Bones filmmakers don't have transportation, the motel owners have been known to wheel upstart artists around town for nothing.

Last year was the first for Oklahoma's only international film festival, and around thirty-five entries were screened at the three-day affair held at Northeastern State University's Muskogee campus and at the Rays' official festival headquarters, Darkwood Motion Pictures Independent Studios, just off Broadway in downtown Muskogee. Entries came from several states as well as an import from Spain with English subtitles. Most of the entries were shorts under sixty minutes and made on skeletal budgets, some as little as \$750.

Several years ago, the Rays made their way back to Muskogee. Both returned to the area because of family ties, mostly out of loyalty and love of family. In 1995, they learned a movie, *Tuskegee Airmen*, was being filmed at Hatbox field, a vintage airfield in the area. After auditioning and hanging out on the set, they were hooked. "We stayed longer than anybody," Butterfly says. (Butterfly was cast in a small role which was eventually cut.) They had the bug. Today, the Rays live on a farm outside Muskogee and work in a variety of creative areas: freelance writing, training and promoting local and area film talent, and movie-making and festival production.

None of the filmmakers who attended last year's festival had ever been to Oklahoma. Butterfly laughingly recalls a conversation with Doug Olney, executive producer of a film called *Boys and Girls: The Game*, before he and three co-filmmakers flew into Tulsa and rented a car to attend Bare Bones. "People are scared," Butterfly says of some festival participants. "They say, 'We're gonna go through farmland?'"

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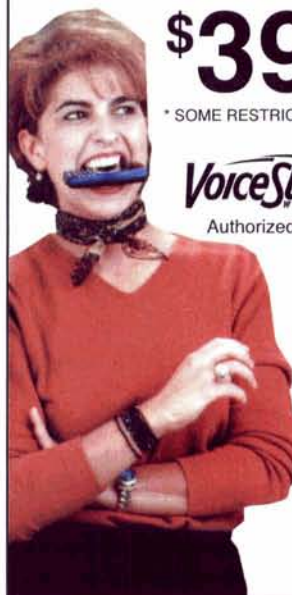
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ACROSS THE RANGE

You don't put city folk out in the middle of the country and say, 'Find your way for forty-five miles.' They're scared of wide-open country."

With the recent success of low-budget indies like *The Blair Witch Project* and *Sling Blade*, entries and attendance for small film fests like Bare Bones will likely be on the upswing (the Rays expect at least a thousand).

Accordingly, festival-goers may get a chance to see the next \$200 million box-office blockbuster. A small sample of films on slate at Bare Bones 2001: a world-premiere feature from Los Angeles called *Good for Nothing*, a high-drama feature about a song gone wrong in *Track 16*, and a British Claymation dramedy short entitled *Stanley*. Like all good promoters, the Rays don't give away the endings.

At this year's festival, regular film screenings will be held on April 20 through 22. Admission is \$6 for a showing, \$15 for a day pass, and \$30 for early-bird festival passes, which can go up to \$50 at festival time, depending on availability. For more information, contact the Rays at festival headquarters, 401 West Broadway, Suite 310 in Muskogee, (918) 686-7729, or visit the event website at barebonesfilmfest.wxs.org. For last year's winners and links, visit barebonesfilmfestival.bizland.com.





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three decades, a magnificent collection was built. Great traditions were established. High standards were set and met. Along the way, The Cowboy Hall of Fame outgrew its name. • The change reflects the transformation this institution has undergone. In this moment, we make history. And tip our ten-gallon hats in gratitude to Oklahoma.





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ACROSS THE RANGE

The OKT Profile: Tyler England



Country music star Tyler England grew up in Oklahoma City. Later, he made his mark as a guitar player for Garth Brooks' band, Stillwater. England recently released his third album, *Highways & Dance Halls*. He lives in Edmond with his wife, Shanna, and their four kids.

Q What inspires you? **A** My children. I see my reflection in the way they look and act.

Q Who were your childhood heroes? **A** Life's true heroes are those who have helped you out of life's trenches. When they couldn't do that, they would jump in there and live with you until you could climb out yourself. My heroes are my family.

Q If you could change something about yourself, what would it be? **A** My memory. I am absolutely terrible with names. I spend the majority of my time trying to figure out who's who.

Q What's your favorite quote? **A** "Kill 'em with kindness."

Q What was the best thing about playing in Garth's band? **A** Everything about it was the best. There wasn't a better job in or out of Nashville.

Q What musician influenced you most? **A** My grandfather, Mr. Ed Lester, has been my biggest influence.

Q Where is your favorite place to eat in Oklahoma? **A** Ted's Café Escondido in Oklahoma City.

Q What's your favorite place in Oklahoma? **A** There's a little town that has always been very special to me: Prague. My grandparents lived a few miles from town on forty acres.

Q When you're not working, what are you doing? **A** Working. Unfortunately, I'm one of those guys who creates work when there is none of it around.

Q What's the most interesting thing about Oklahoma? **A** Its wide open spaces give a whole new meaning to the word "freedom."

PAMELA SPRINGSTEEN

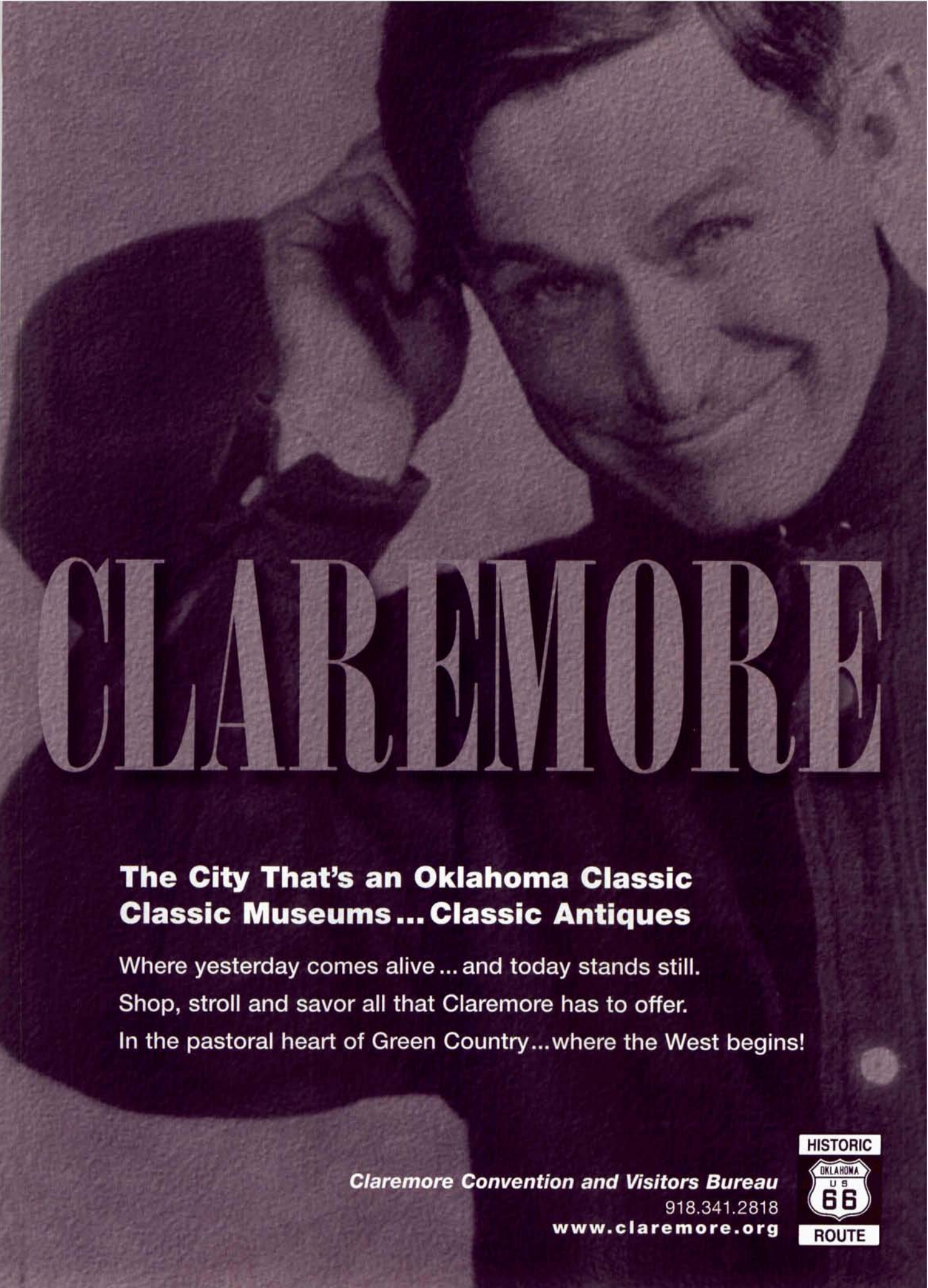
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Deconstructing a Wrangler

Get Along, Little Dogie

MEET SHANE GRIFFIN. IN HIS SPARE TIME A bull rider, the nineteen year old spends summers working at Western Hills Guest Ranch in Wagoner (918/772-2545; traveloklahoma.com). The rustic ranch sits in the foothills of Sequoyah State Park in northeastern Oklahoma and offers plenty of activities for the wrangler-in-training, including horseback riding, hayrides, and a Lil' Wrangler program for children. With more than 300 acres of open prairie and wooded trails, folks are sure to leave a little more countrified than when they came in. If you're up for some wranglin,' make sure to study the gear so you know the ranching ropes.

—Andrea Lopez Walker

In addition to looking good, **hats** are an essential cowboy sunshade. Just remember—felt in winter, straw in summer. A felt lid can do double duty as a water scoop for refreshing a thirsty horse and is great for keeping the head warm on a brisk fall night. \$30 to \$185 and up.

Western yoke's the word here. Lots of older cowboys like their **shirts** to snap up, but these days most are made with buttons. Any pattern will do, as long as it's got that country style. \$30 to \$50.

Though probably unnecessary for holding up those snug jeans, a **belt** comes in handy for hobbling a horse. And check out the **buckle**—as unique as the cowboy. Belt, \$25 to \$60; buckle, \$15 to \$150.

For catching cows, a good **rope** is a must-have. It's gotta be hard, nylon, and made just for the job. \$16 to \$25.

Reminiscent of the old west, **spurs** really do have a place on today's cowpoke. The spiked metal wheel attaches to the boot and tells the horse it's time to giddyup. \$20 to \$30.

With a cowboy cut that includes wider belt loops and a rider-friendly fit, **Wrangler jeans** reign supreme for cowboys. The brand features a tapered leg with a boot cut, just another quality that makes them all-around winners on the ranch. \$30.

Though not worn by all cowboys, **chaps** are good protection from the elements and keep a wrangler's legs sufficiently warm. \$200

Aside from looking mighty good with Wranglers, a cowboy's **boots** have their purpose. The smooth bottom eases his foot into the stirrup, while the heel keeps it from sliding too far, a veritable stirrup speed bump. \$49 to \$150 and up.



TOM LUKER

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WEEKENDS

By John R. Catsis

COWBOY COUNTRY

Stillwater Runs Deep

LATE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY, SETTLERS CAME UPON A barren piece of land along the banks of Stillwater Creek, less than a mile south of the present downtown Stillwater area. These settlers illegally founded the town before the 1889 land run in an attempt to force the government to officially open the lands to settlement. As history tells us, they succeeded.

Since then, Stillwater has made history in a number of ways: As the home of Oklahoma State University. As one of America's safest cities. A good place to retire, to play golf. Silicon Prairie. The home of Eskimo Joe's. The sixth best small town in America. And a place for healing and community.

Stillwater can't claim commercial airline service or an indoor mall. But now, more than 13,600 can watch a major college basketball game or wrestling match at one of the grandest new arenas in the Midwest.

Stillwater has always been halfway between Tulsa and Oklahoma City. Now it's more than halfway to becoming a tourist attraction and a great place to live.

TO NEW HEIGHTS

Oklahoma's newest landmark, tourist attraction, and cash cow sits just beyond the east end zone of Oklahoma State University's football stadium. It's called the **Athletic Center** (405/707-7830), because within its 425,000 square feet are Gallagher-Iba Arena, the football locker room, and a coaches building. Once separate structures, the facilities

are now enclosed under one roof.

This \$55 million monolithic monster has already achieved landmark status, sharing the skyline with downtown grain elevators and OSU's high-rise dormitories. The Athletic Center's biggest mark may lie in the promise of economic benefits that neither the university nor Stillwater envisioned: Its



Downtown Live!

STILLWATER'S HISTORIC DOWNTOWN IS A LIVELY PLACE to shop. Downtown Stillwater has learned to live with change and is perfect for a leisurely stroll in the shade of elm trees, imagining what it might have been like years ago.

The "artsy" area of downtown is a one-block strip of Seventh Avenue. At **New England Beadery** (405/743-2724), you can buy beads, sit at a table, and string them. More traditional gawkers gather in the sidewalk seating area of **Aspen Coffee Company** (405/377-5282);

Nafohka, specializing in Santa Fe clothing and jewelry (405/377-4333); and **Cat and the Fiddle** (405/372-8697), a fun children's store.

Main Street is anchored by **Katz Department Store** (405/372-7800), founded in 1894, and **Central Drug** (405/372-6120), established in 1932, across the street. At **Bates Brothers** (405/372-8158), gentlemen can purchase fine suits and casual clothing. **Murphy's Potpourri** (405/372-0468) has Oklahoma's largest display of china. And don't miss the two buildings worth of booths at the **Antique Mall** (405/372-2322), located in what was once Stillwater's grand opera house.

In short, downtown is where you find beads, tweeds, and seeds.

**DOWNTOWN
STILLWATER
AND
OSU
WELCOME
YOU!**



You Know You're in Stillwater When...

- 1 Everyone wears orange on Fridays.
- 2 No one wears crimson...ever.
- 3 A traffic jam lasts from 5:01 to 5:06 p.m. and consists of up to five vehicles at a stoplight.
- 4 Everybody understands the meaning of "Fowl Thing."
- 5 People actually believe bright orange goes with everything.
- 6 The stadium wave doesn't look like the ones on TV.
- 7 You know what OAMC means.
- 8 The Tumbleweed is a place and not a thing.



Stillwater is known as "Orange Country," in homage to Oklahoma State University's dominant color. The other is black. Elsewhere in America, orange and black signify Halloween, but here, loyal Cowboy fans aren't trick-or-treating when they claim to bleed orange.

OSU began as Oklahoma A&M College on Christmas Day 1890. A farsighted community group donated 200 acres to help get the college started. That gift has since been repaid many times over.

Merchants have benefited from a number of OSU special events. Homecoming, usually in October, is one of the largest in the United States, and Orange Peel—a kickoff to the football season—attracts up to 20,000 spectators.

The campus features modified Georgian architecture. The focal point is the formal gardens, located just west of the Student Union, recently rebuilt at a cost of \$360,000. Don't miss Old Central, the first permanent campus building, which now houses the **Oklahoma Museum of Higher Education** (405/744-2828).

expanded seating is sure to entice major events that previously passed Stillwater by.

Credit for the project goes to two individuals: OSU athletic director Terry Don Phillips, who saw a need to upgrade the school's athletic facilities, including more seats for ticket-starved Cowboy basketball fans; and OSU alum and architect Gary Sparks of Tulsa, who came up with the innovative plan. Sparks designed a building that would preserve and expand hallowed Gallagher-Iba Arena, home to thirty national championship wrestling teams and two national championship basketball teams. The redesign retains many of the beloved features of the old arena, including the original maple floor and the ability to generate ear-splitting noise.

EATS AND SLEEPS

No one has done more to improve Stillwater's dining atmosphere than Stan Clark. In 1975, the same year he graduated from OSU, Clark opened a bar just east of campus called **Eskimo Joe's** (405/372-8896). It soon became a favorite gathering place for students and locals.

Eskimo Joe's remains in its original location but now sports an enormous skylight. A very popular clothing store, **Joe's Clothes** (405/624-3249), is next door. All those Eskimo Joe's anniversary T-shirts have paid off. Only in Stillwater would thousands gather on hot, humid nights in July to celebrate the birthday of a bar.

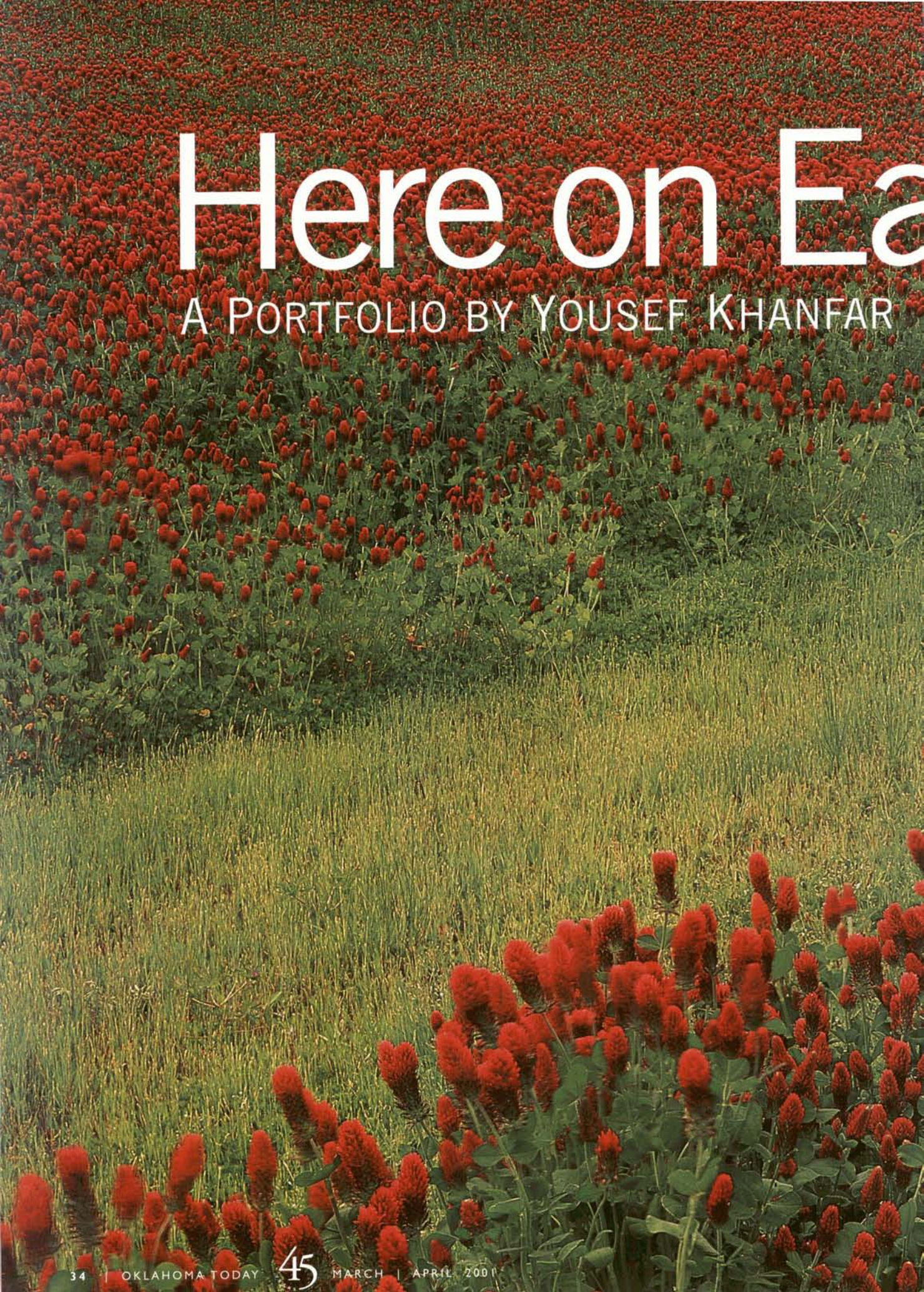
Mexico Joe's (405/372-1169) and **Stillwater Bay** (405/743-2780) eventually followed. From its second-floor downtown location, the Bay overlooks historic Seventh Avenue. It quickly became Stillwater's premier restaurant, and for many patrons, it remains so.

Seven years ago, Clark moved Mexico Joe's to a prime area of "restaurant row." There, he built his version of a Mexican cantina from the ground

up. And just last year, right next door, Clark built another show place, **Joseppi's** (405/624-3249), serving Italian food.

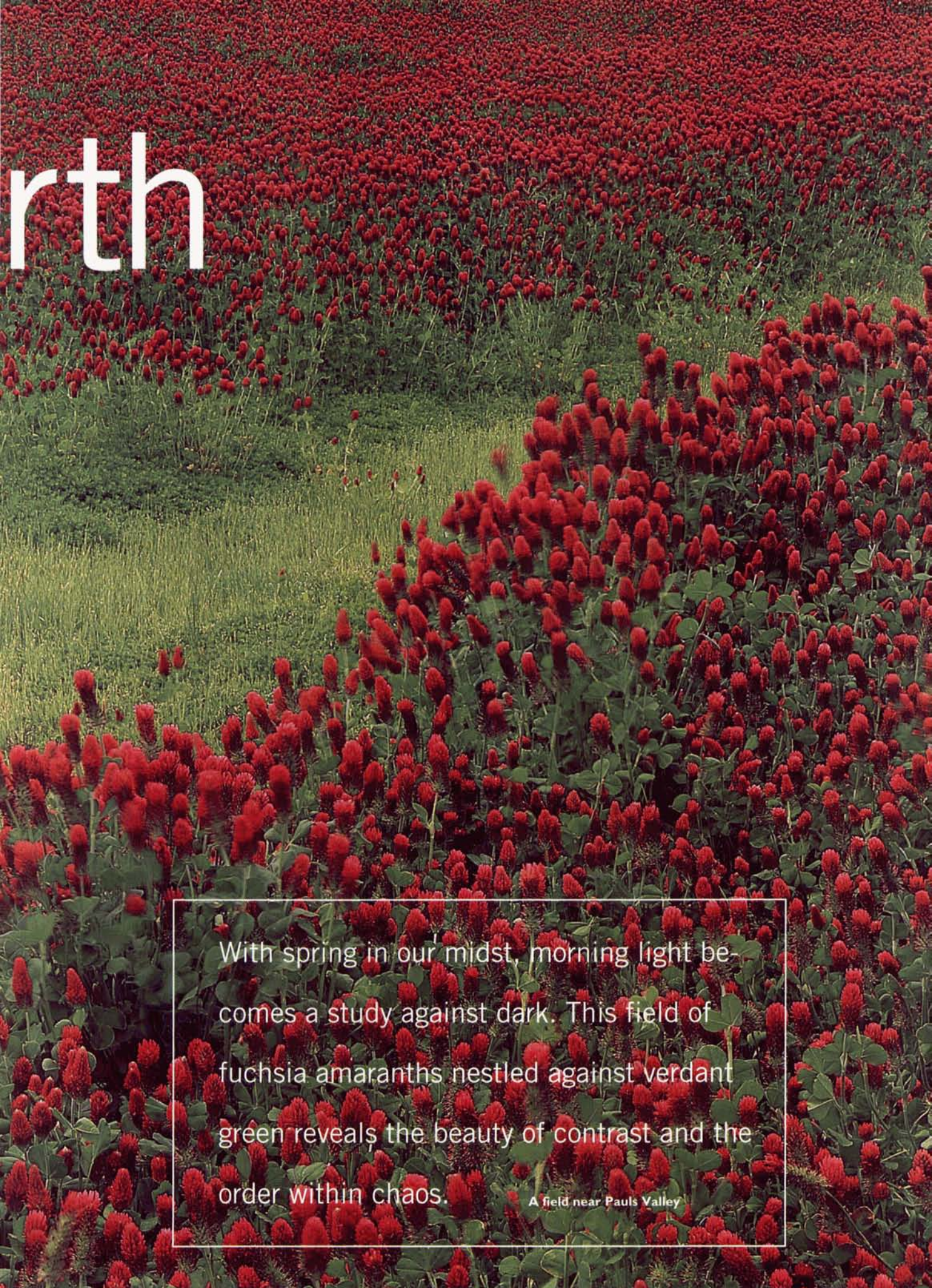
Finding a room, especially during football season, can be a chore. The larger motels in town include the **Best Western** (405/377-7010; \$65-\$109 a night), **Holiday Inn** (405/372-0800; \$70-\$84), **Days Inn** (405/743-2570; \$35-\$75), the **Student Union Hotel** (405/744-6835; \$68-\$74), and **Fairfield Inn** (405/372-6300; \$59-\$83).





Here on Earth

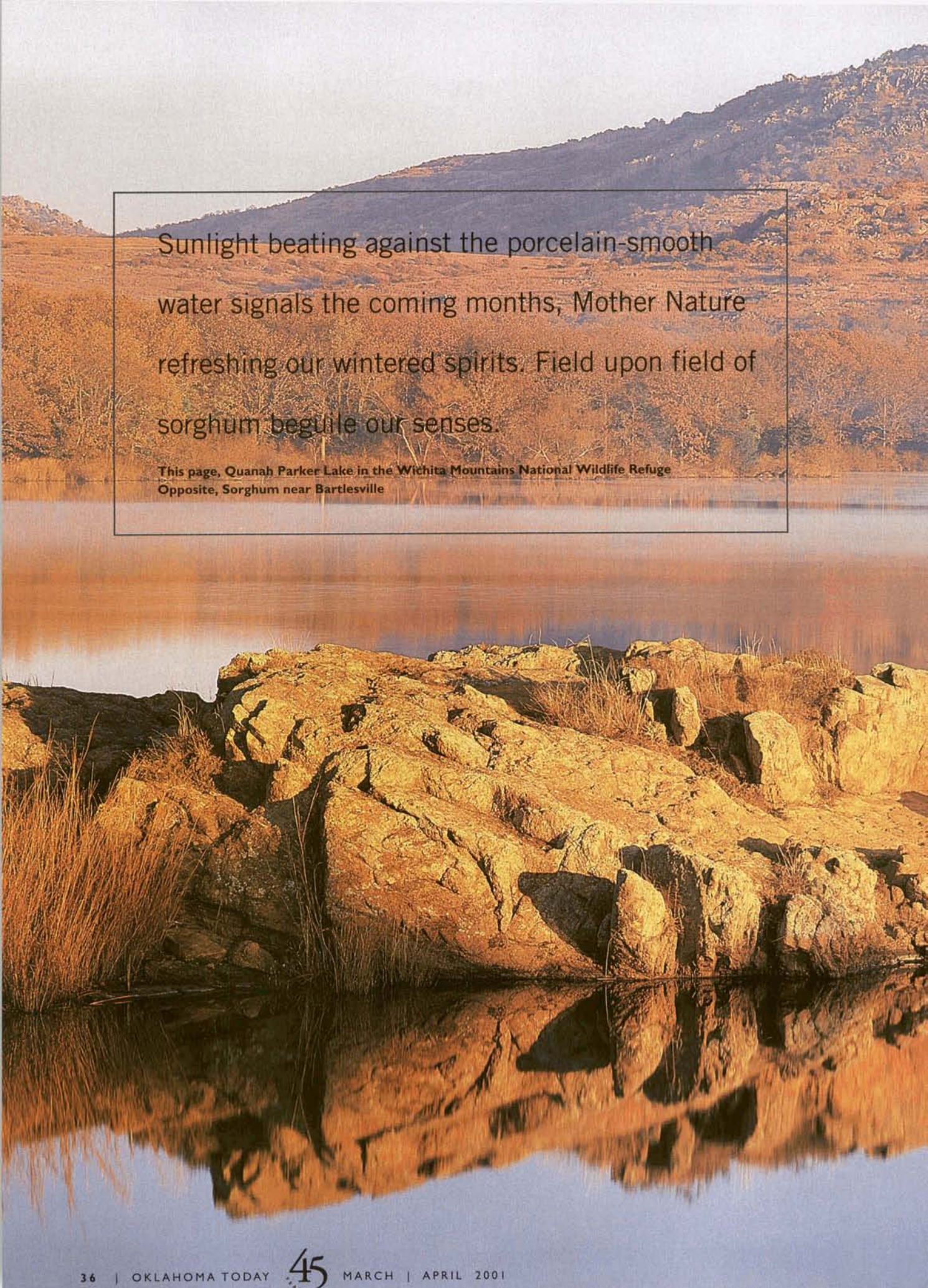
A PORTFOLIO BY YOUSEF KHANFAR

A high-angle, wide shot of a vast field of red fuchsia amaranths. The flowers are densely packed in some areas, particularly in the foreground and right side, where they form a thick carpet of vibrant red. In other areas, the flowers are more sparse, revealing the green foliage and stems beneath. The overall effect is a striking contrast between the deep red of the blossoms and the lush green of the leaves and stems. The field stretches out towards the horizon, creating a sense of depth and scale.

rth

With spring in our midst, morning light becomes a study against dark. This field of fuchsia amaranths nestled against verdant green reveals the beauty of contrast and the order within chaos.

A field near Pauls Valley



Sunlight beating against the porcelain-smooth
water signals the coming months, Mother Nature
refreshing our wintered spirits. Field upon field of
sorghum beguile our senses.

This page, Quanah Parker Lake in the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge
Opposite, Sorghum near Bartlesville

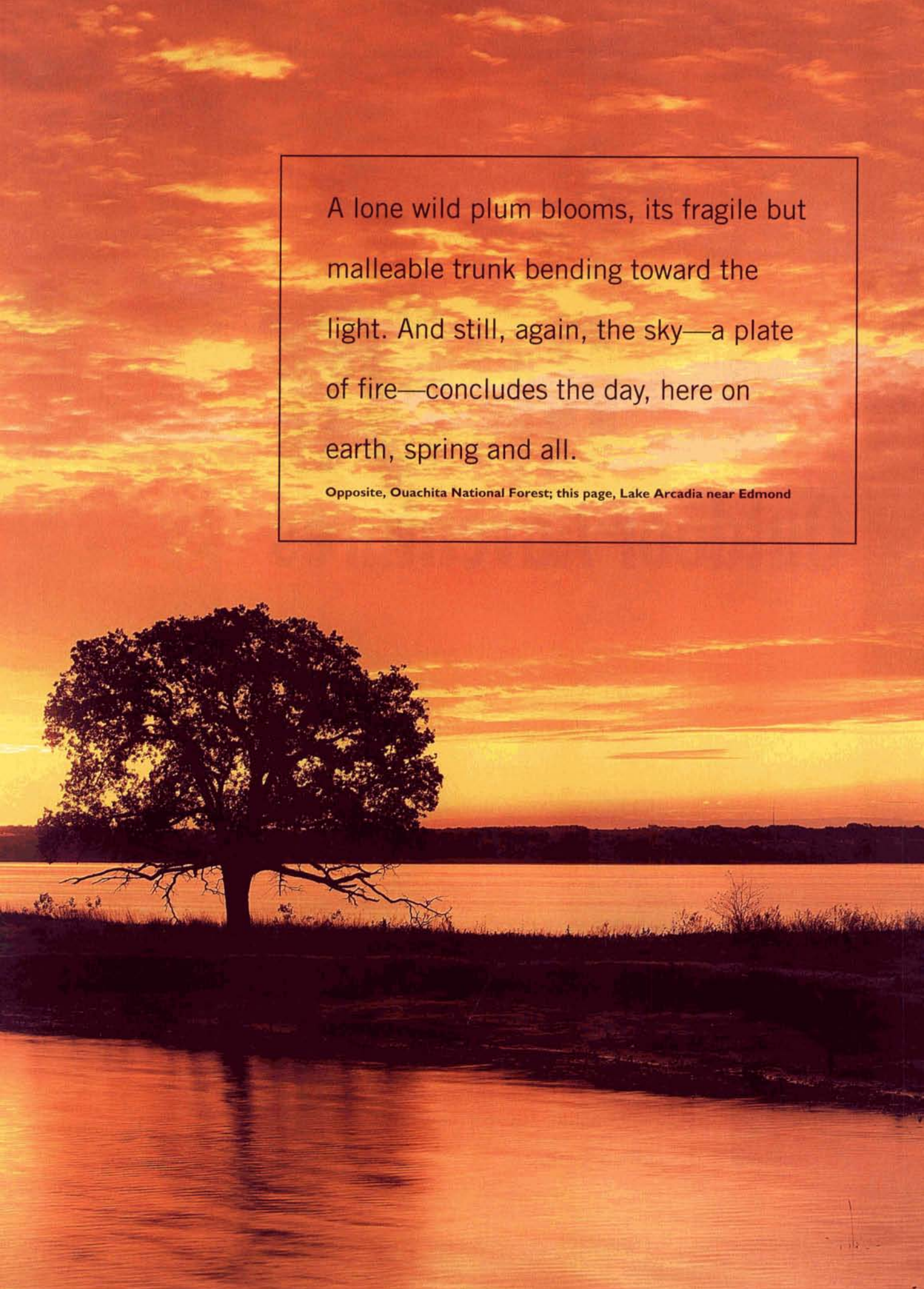




Redbuds in full bloom at Fort Cobb State Park near Anadarko







A lone wild plum blooms, its fragile but malleable trunk bending toward the light. And still, again, the sky—a plate of fire—concludes the day, here on earth, spring and all.

Opposite, Ouachita National Forest; this page, Lake Arcadia near Edmond





seven 7 GREAT Outdoor Adventures

With spring and summer just around the corner, we figured it was high time to hightail it off the couch for some interfacing with the great outdoors. Assigning seven writers to the task of describing their favorite outdoor escape, we turned up a variety of experiences, from a philosophical tree house project to a father-son foray to Oklahoma City's beloved Bricktown Ballpark. When planning your great escape, consider these seven under-the-sun adventures.



RHETT JACKSON

WHEN I THINK OF THE great outdoors, two words immediately come to mind. Actually, they're numbers, and they're hyphenated: 7-Eleven.

Okay, I admit that America's favorite convenience store is not exactly synonymous with nature or fitness. Slurpees? Sure. Big Gulps? Uh-huh. But outdoor adventures?

If you don't believe me, head to Norman. Take Lindsey Street until you hit the 7-Eleven at Southeast Twenty-fourth Street. And don't forget your running shoes. Because this great outdoor adventure is a run, a hilly, scenic, sweaty trek past the rapidly vanishing farms and ranches of east Norman.

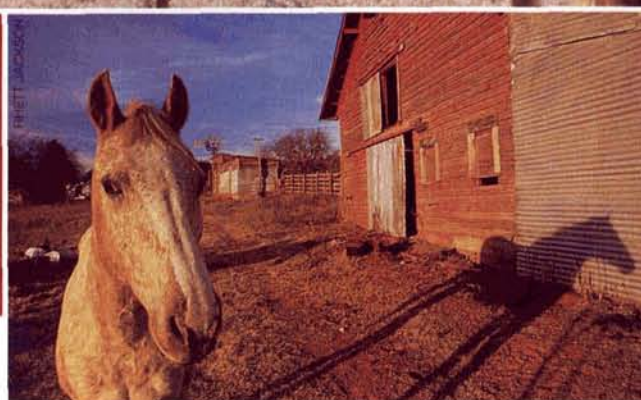
The directions are simple: Head east on Lindsey Street. By the time you crest that first

SPEED ^{one}

By Adam Buckley Cohen



The author's typical run on the outskirts of Norman includes several twists and turns, not least of which is an encounter with this quizzical equine. Runners should always wear appropriate shoes and bright colors and run against traffic.



big hill near Thirty-sixth Street, subdivisions have given way to open fields, minivans to horse barns. You may even see my favorite horse, which inevitably stops grazing to stare at me in wonderment.

Just past the two mile mark (every twelve blocks equal a mile), make a quick stop at 4904 East Lindsey. For years, the kind folks who live here have let runners drink up from their well. And don't worry that the pump looks a little rusty—the water is as good as any I've ever tasted.

For the next two and a half miles, the countryside undulates—sometimes gently, sometimes not so gently—and the houses grow more sparse. Horses and cows go quietly about their business, while an occasional deer darts through the trees. A crumbling hulk of a barn stands sentry over the

intersection at Sixtieth Street.

At Eightieth Street, where dense thickets of oaks crowd the road and a flock of guinea fowl clucks disapprovingly at approaching runners, Lindsey Street dead-ends. This is usually my turnaround point. However, if you're a glutton for punishment, head north on Eightieth Street, which will soon jog east to Eighty-fourth Street. From there, go north. You can head west on Alameda (a twelve-mile loop), go north and east to Lake Thunderbird (a fifteen-mile circuit), or continue beyond the lake to Little Axe.

While my training isn't what it once was and my pace may have slackened a bit, I still find a way to chug up and down the hills, eluding the farm dogs that mistake me for

Nike-clad Alpo. And when I'm through, I still reward myself just as I always have—with an ice-cold bottle of Gatorade. Thank heaven for 7-Eleven.

Adam Buckley Cohen is a lawyer-turned-journalist who writes frequently for Oklahoma Today.



RHETT JACKSON



The Author Finds Himself in the Treetops of a Silver Maple

MARRIAGE CAME TO me later than most. I was forty-two.

Michelle and then six-year-old Bailey came to live in the junk-strewn house where I'd resided for ten years. Change came suddenly and not always comfortably.

Summer unfolded with a new life and, admittedly, some identity confusion on the part of all three of us. We redid most of the dark interiors and combined households into a cozy, much tidier house. Out went the bike frame from the living room, the mounted animals, and dusty piles of magazines.

But something was missing. We took a short but wonderful family vacation in August to the Caribbean. Returning home, the familiar squeeze in my chest returned. I trained harder, more often, revisited hobbies. Nothing worked. Then came the idea for the tree house. Maybe it was Bailey's idea. She doesn't remember, nor do I. But the concept

was pure electricity. A place where I could construct, expand, build something for my family. Perhaps it's a primal instinct.

The old silver maple with its shallow-rooted, zero-growth zone took on a new face. Up in its gently U-shaped intersections and crossbars of wood I imagined our lair, a place of wind in our faces and stars at night, high enough where the neighbors couldn't see in but we could look out over the rooftops and streets below.

Then, like the Swiss Family Robinson, who, upon being shipwrecked, gathered everything they could, I hoarded windows, pulleys, hardware, and assorted things I'd never use elsewhere from the ocean of junk shops and antique stores in town.

I went to the mega-homebuilding center for



lumber and wandered among the aisles with other gape-mouthed men who, like I, stared blankly at two-by-fours and nails until our necks hurt.

I built twenty feet up and started with a simple concept: Build a strong foundation with enough area for the dream to take shape, and be kind to myself and to the tree or trees I use.

I designed around the branches, then sided and roofed the tree house like our

Above, Joel Everett and his stepdaughter, Bailey. Right, Everett found the tree house's stained-glass window at an antique mall in Muskogee. Not content with the structure's current form, he may add a second-level observation deck this summer.

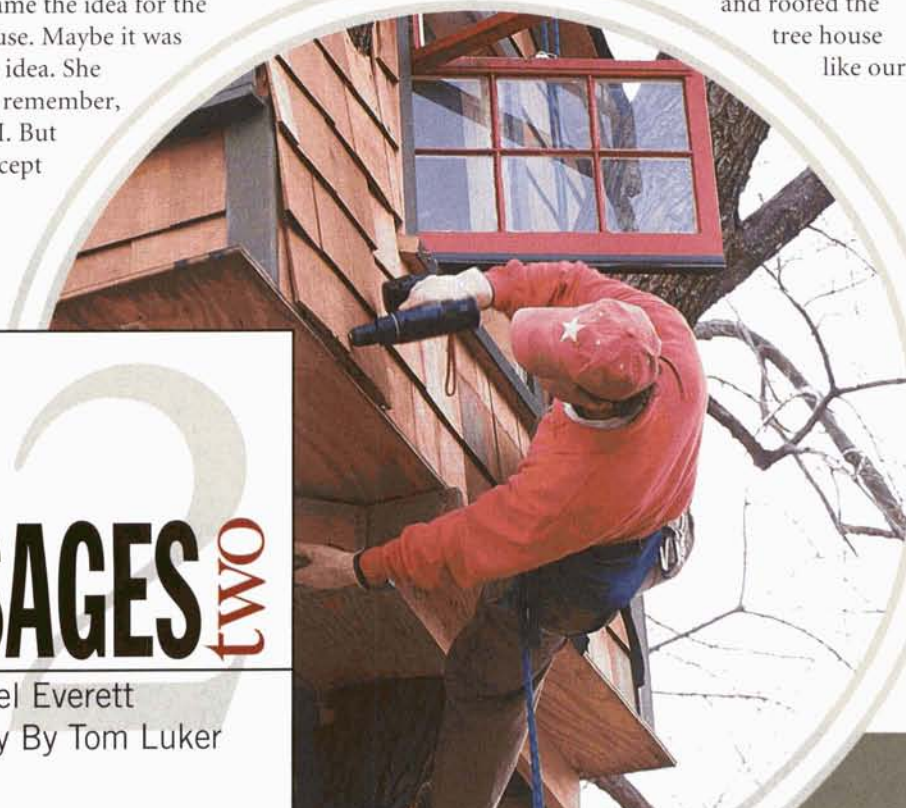


main house below, using light, durable cedar shingles. After three months of off-and-on weekends and afternoons, the exterior of the tree house was virtually complete and weatherproofed for the coming winter.

The trees turned late last year. It was the very cusp of December, in the last wee corner of November on a morning pressed between holiday stress, family illness, and looming deadlines. The sun cast that faraway northern slant, the cold shadows of winter's arrival. The panorama of hundred-

PASSAGES TWO

By Joel Everett
Photography By Tom Luker





On Pulp

Just a few hints: Use galvanized screws to attach your foundation to the tree, and remember, the foundation is all that should be attached to the tree. Put tree-anchoring screws no less than a foot apart—the tree will treat the wounds, but if they're close together, the area between may rot and fall out.

Wear a safety harness. My friend and Outward Bound instructor John Thompson came through town and rigged a climbing rope high in the tree so I could use a climbing harness for safety and rappel down for kicks.

Build everything on the ground that you can and haul it up using ropes and pulleys. Don't cable around a branch, as this will collar the tree and cause damage or loss of both limb and tree house.

There's great information at treehouseworkshop.com and treehouses.com. Much later on, I came across Peter Nelson's *The Treehouse Book*, which I wish I'd had in advance. And remember what Nelson reminds early in his book: "Tree houses are not meant to be permanent structures."

foot-tall red oaks were painted with sunlit aubergine, banana yellow, red the color of tin barns gone to age, all against a deep blue winter morning sky. It almost knocked the wind from me.

In the night, a hard freeze came, and in the park the next morning the trees were brown, ghostly. I half expected to see a shadowy Nick Adams come tromping through the park hunting chukars with a bird dog tracing figure eights out in front. The changing season, so like youth, painfully beautiful in its brevity, hallowed in its passing,

twisted in memory.

There's also a black walnut tree in the back yard. It has a branch that nearly touches the silver maple. I've seen the squirrels use it like a bridge, wavering on the end of the branch, then leaping with abandon to the little branches of the silver maple. So far as I can tell, they always make it to safety. Do they have no concept of age? Responsibility for their children? Insurance?

Bailey just turned eight. I just turned forty-four. My youth is gone. I look over at that black walnut tree, its branches nearly touching the tree house. It looks

sturdy and thick as a porch column. Wonder if we can run a cable tram over there?

A Hollis native, contributing editor Joel Everett says he learned from his father that "nothing was broken that you couldn't fix with some ingenuity, junk parts, or help from a local character."

If planning a tree house, find a strong, suitable type of tree: oak, ash, and mesquite for easy-to-climb tree houses. Others include cypress, pine, and redwood. Stay away from cottonwood, birch, and, oops, silver maple. Pecan is okay; black walnut is brittle.



WHERE THE BUFFALO ROAM ^{three}

By Chris Corbett



DARRELL MCCLEAN/HAN

THE WICHITAS ARE “a consecrated place...it was here, the Kiowas say, that the first buffalo came into the world.” N. Scott Momaday, the Pulitzer prize-winning author who wrote these words, grew up on the rocky plains of southwest Oklahoma which harbor the Wichita Mountains. “Even now,” he adds, “there is something of the wilderness about it.” Enough wilderness, surely, to hike into a solitude that can be palpable and unsettling.

The Charons Garden Wilderness Area, a 5,700-acre portion of the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, is one of only three federally designated wilderness areas in Oklahoma open



DARRELL MCCLEAN/HAN

Nearly a thousand bison and Rocky Mountain elk, above, roam throughout the refuge. Left, Hikers, including the author (bearded), take a breather. Since fires are not allowed in the refuge, overnights should bring a camping stove for heating water or cooking.

to the public (the other two are located within the Ouachita National Forest in eastern Oklahoma). The rocky beauty of Charons Garden attracts backpackers seeking an easily accessible, but isolated, overnight camping experience.

After a mere two miles into the wilderness area, the hiker leaves behind the vast majority of refuge visitors and enters a wild landscape once home to the Kiowa, Comanche, and Kiowa-Apache tribes. The remote sense of Charons Garden is only heightened by the buffalo, longhorn, and elk dwelling there. More than

500 American bison roam the refuge. Rattlesnakes, too, inhabit the area, though they are more likely to be lurking among rocky outcroppings than on the trails.

Hikers expecting a well-maintained trail system will be surprised by the paths in Charons Garden. Although maintained, there's nothing manicured about them. The few that do exist here (for example, a two-miler between Sunset Picnic Area and Treasure Lake) are kept clear only by the foot traffic of occasional hikers and wildlife. A hiker often finds himself following what appears to be a well-defined

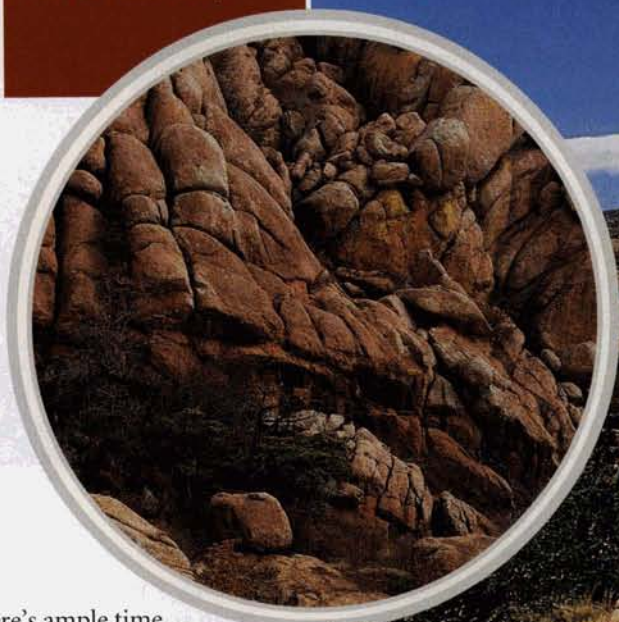
path, only to be led straight into a dense thicket of oaks with clearance best suited for deer.

An experienced hiker or backpacker, equipped with a compass and topographical



RICHARD DAY

A relatively short drive from most points statewide, the main trailhead into Charons Garden is located at Sunset Picnic Area, about two hours from Oklahoma City.



maps (available at the refuge visitor center), should have no trouble finding his way in Charons Garden. Landmarks like Crab Eyes and Sunset Peak give remarkable bird's-eye views.

But the new visitor should treat the Wichita backcountry with a healthy measure of respect. People do get lost here, sometimes overnight. Many of the rocky peaks, prairie plateaus, and forested draws in Charons Garden appear confusingly similar, and even with a map, it can be difficult to determine one's exact position. Patrols in the wilderness area are infrequent at best; the lost hiker is more likely to encounter a gruff bison than a refuge staff member.

Backpackers who want to camp overnight in Charons Garden must obtain one of a limited number of overnight permits from the refuge headquarters. It's the only area in the refuge where camping is allowed, except for the Doris and Fawn Creek "drive-in" campgrounds. Camping access is limited to ten people on any given night. After all, this is first and foremost a refuge for wildlife (although the number of day hikers is unrestricted).

Charons Garden has a prominent grassy plateau, running east from Elk Mountain to the west edge of the refuge, which is flanked by wooded stream courses, rocky crags, and canyons. The area is peppered with woody coves and grassy areas suitable for tents. After the short hike in (one to three miles) and camp setup,

there's ample time left to explore Charons Garden's rock formations, dens, hidden canyons, unique plant and wildlife, and even small, seasonal waterfalls (Post Oak Falls is found about a half mile or so north of Treasure Lake).

On hot days, seek relief in one of the many canyon coves cooled by the shade of small groves of sugar maples, seemingly out of place in this otherwise rugged, stony landscape.

An encounter with a buffalo is almost inevitable for the hiker who frequents Charons Garden. There are few images which evoke a more classic sense of Native America than that of bison grazing on the plains. And there are few places in the United States, other than the Wichitas, where the image is so accessible. Still, buffalo and longhorn can be dangerous animals. Keep a wide berth when passing them, at least fifty to a

hundred feet.

What Charons Garden lacks in size, it more than makes up in sense of place. Ideal camping weather in the refuge is spring (March to early June) and fall (mid-September to December), though day hiking is feasible even on the coldest winter day.

Chris Corbett's last article for the magazine, in the November–December 2000 issue, was about rock climbing in the Wichitas.

ABOVE: RICHARD DAY; RIGHT: STANLEY N. SCHWARTZ



Getting There

The Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge is located on State Highway 49, twenty-five miles northwest of Lawton. The main trailheads into Charons Garden are located at the Sunset Picnic Area. For information, call the refuge office at (580) 429-3222. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

DAVID TRIPLE-CHECKS the contents of his backpack as our car approaches the crown jewel of Oklahoma City's Bricktown.

The gates open at 5:30, and David doesn't want to miss a minute. The game doesn't start until 7:05 p.m., but that doesn't matter to him. He always makes me drop him off at the gate even before I park the car, usually jumping out while it's still rolling to a stop. "See you in our usual place," he says.

David, thirteen, has his game face on, and he wears a brick-colored baseball cap and a smile. The backpack hanging from his shoulders holds a zippered load of baseball cards and Sharpie pens in anticipation of

signing up the game's next superstars.

The Oklahoma RedHawks are in town, and it's another father-son night at Bricktown Ballpark. There's nowhere else in town we'd rather be. We go to as many games as our frenzied summer schedules permit, around fifteen to twenty matchups a year. In fact, he and I have become best friends at the ballpark—David and I started going to the games when he was seven. With the boys of summer before us and cold Pepsis in our hands, we've solved the world's problems together. It's baseball season, and life is good.

When the gates swing open, David barely stops to have his ticket torn before he runs across the spacious concourse, past the Hide-away Pizza stand and the peanut vendor, and positions himself behind the third base dugout, where his new heroes will soon emerge. It's baseball RedHawks style, and very few all-American, Oklahoma kids—or their dads—can resist it.

The home of our favorite team is a real-life field of dreams in Oklahoma City's asphalt cornfield called Bricktown. They named it right; this is a ballpark, "park" the operative word. "Stadium" would be too cold, too remote, for this intimate home to the Oklahoma RedHawks.

As the players emerge from the clubhouse beneath the stands, a new



Above, Tom Sergio epitomizes the RedHawks' signature style. Right, Osmani Garcia fled Cuba in 1998 and now plays third base. Below left, Ruben Sierra, a former star player for the Oakland A's and Texas Rangers, with two fans during the national anthem

kinship develops between them and their fans, particularly young fans.

In an age of overpaid athletes whose joy for the game is often contingent upon a multimillion dollar contract (and who often consider fans a nuisance at best), these Triple-A players don't hesitate to befriend the kids. They willingly, even eagerly, sign autographs and engage their young fans in conversation. In fact, if David is in the right place at the right time, one of his heroes might toss him a baseball. Just for being there.

These guys still love the game, and they love

kids who love the game. I've come to believe that Triple-A ball is America's favorite pastime at its purest. The players are future Texas Rangers, playing against future Cleveland Indians, Los Angeles Dodgers, and Chicago Cubs. If you pay close attention to the rosters, you'll see future superstars on their way to



The Oklahoma RedHawks and the Tulsa Drillers both begin their seasons on April 5 and play through early September. RedHawks tickets range from \$4 to \$13, Drillers from \$4.50 to \$8.50. redhawkbaseball.com and tulsadrillers.com



THE BOYS OF SUMMER

By Randy Swanson



JEFF MARKS

arms that wrap around him. That won't deter Rowdy. Each little hug is returned in kind.

By the time the rest of the city is tuning in one of the Ogle brothers to hear more of the world's calamities reported live and in color, David and I have spent another evening without a care in the world.

The next day, we may not even remember who won the game. But you know what? That won't matter. Because it's baseball season, and life is good.

Randy Swanson lives in Yukon with his wife and three boys.

the big time. You may be watching the next Sammy Sosa, Juan Gonzalez, or Ryne Sandberg, right here in the heartland.

I usually sit back during warm-ups and let the snap of the ball inside the leather mitt and the crack of the bat rekindle warm memories of my own little-league days. I still recall those dreams of stardom on the baseball diamond like it was yesterday. I'm jolted back to reality when a stray foul ball rattles in the seats feet away.

By the time the umpire calls, "Play ball!" David has scored five autographs and a baseball or two from the good guys. Not bad. He shows them off like an oil boom wildcatter flaunting his gold nugget watchband.

The truth is, David is pretty lucky to be a RedHawks fan. We've been to enough major-league games to know that kids at those ballparks are delirious if Griffey Junior even spits in their direction.

As game time approaches, more families and friends filter in and settle among the green seats. These folks have ventured out in search of a clean, wholesome, relaxed evening. Some are taking a break from a business meeting or closing a deal over a hot dog and cold drink. I can hear a couple of guys praising, even coveting the lush green grass that the groundskeeper has slaved over all summer.

David has already had his first thrills for the evening.

Now he'll position himself to retrieve a foul ball or to snag a RedHawks T-shirt flung into the stands between innings from an oversized slingshot. The younger kids will get their kicks when Rowdy, the feathery RedHawks mascot, enters the park. Over the next three hours, Rowdy's costume gets sticky from the hundreds of tiny cotton candy-stained



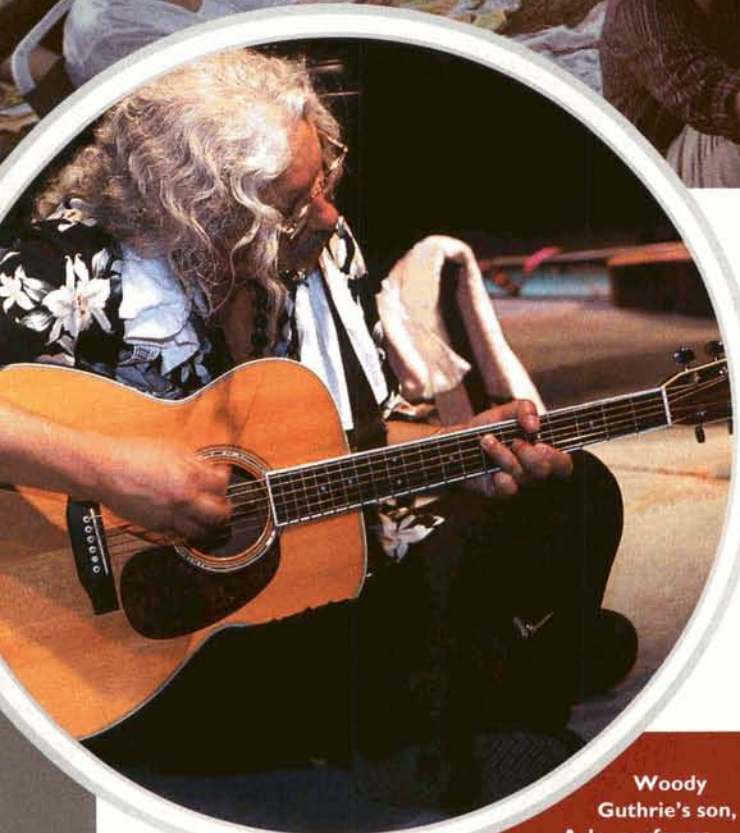
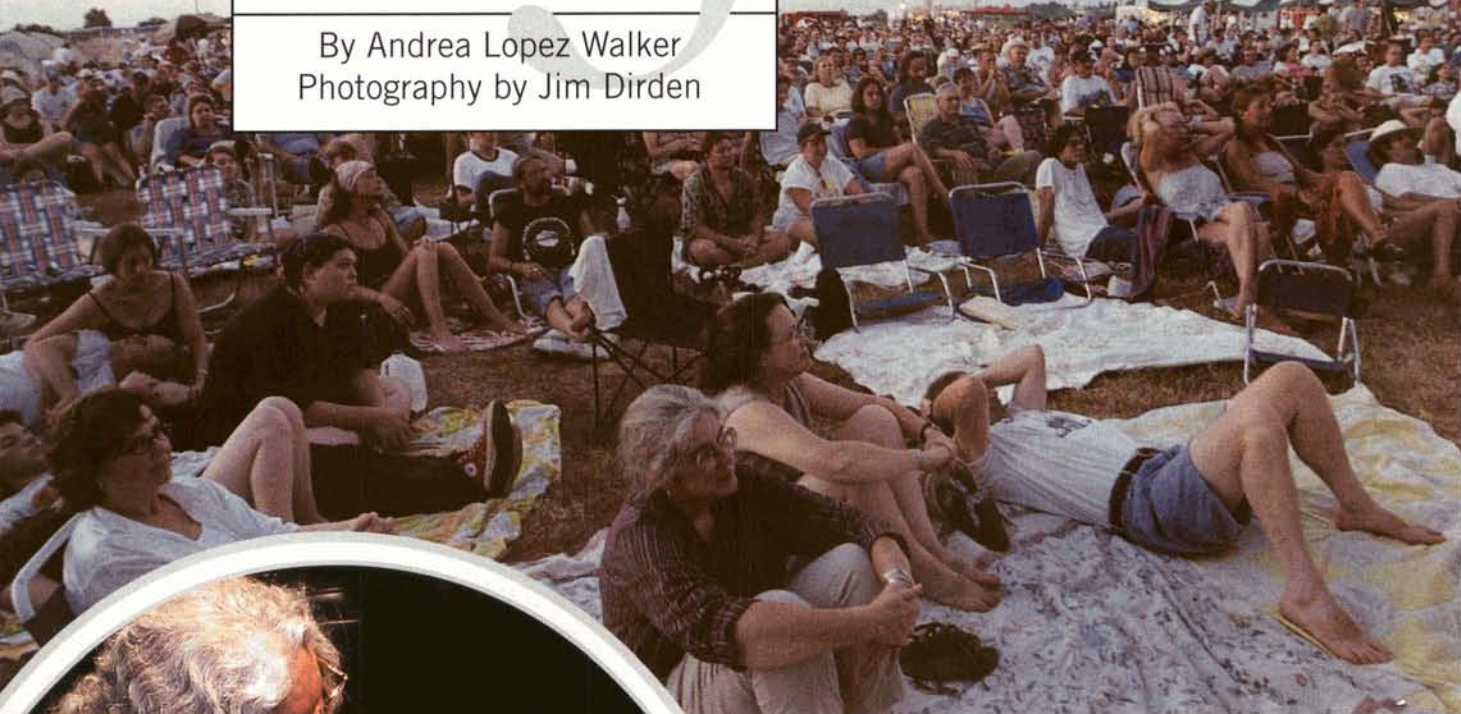
JOHN JERNIGAN

Standing guard at the entrance of Bricktown Ballpark is a statue of Oklahoma's most famous ballplayer and the greatest switch hitter of all time, Mickey Mantle, a native of Commerce.

A FESTIVAL BOUND FOR GLORY **FIVE**

By Andrea Lopez Walker
Photography by Jim Dirden

This Music Was Made for You and Me



Woody Guthrie's son, Arlo, performs regularly at the Okemah festival, held this year July 11-15. Admission is free, but parking costs \$5. For information, call (918) 623-2440 or woodyguthrie.com.

THE CONCEPT OF summer and music took on a whole new meaning during June 1967 in Monterey, California. There, the music festival was born. The Monterey International Pop Festival drew 200,000 to the county fairgrounds to listen to a new form of pop music. The concert began the Summer of Love, with its themes of peace, togetherness, and music.

Two years later, in 1969, the infamous Woodstock festival, held in Bethel, New York, became the standard to which all other outdoor concerts would forever be compared. With crowds of more than 450,000, Woodstock is forever remembered as a time of

harmony, love, and the music festival.

Fast-forward twenty-nine years to 1998 and 1,464 miles west to Okemah, Oklahoma. It was then that the Woody Guthrie Folk Festival was born. Held each July on the weekend nearest Guthrie's birthday, the event could steal the billing from Woodstock as "a weekend in the country." (It has already borrowed some of the big festival's performers, such as Arlo Guthrie and Country Joe McDonald.)

Here, musicians gather to sing about life, death, and the deep feelings essential to folk music. Without the smoke and lights of many mainstream performers, these musicians are in it for the sake of the song, convey-

ing ideas and ideals that today's bubblegum popsters can't seem to grasp. Here, real musicians sing—for real.

The festival is an entertaining and enjoyable weekend in the country, surrounded by country folks. And, well, there are those who are a little more rock-and-roll, but then again, that's what makes it great. Music has a way of bringing together people from different social circles, people who don't hang out at the same after-hours joints and probably never even knew they had anything in common. But that's just it. Everyone has folk music in common. Because music is life—put to a melody.

Okemah isn't large by anyone's standards. Don't try to find the town's spotlight—you'll be looking for a long time. But pair this small town of 3,000 with another 12,000 guests and triple-digit July temps, and you're in for quite a time.

This year's festival is five days long and begins with a Woody Guthrie Coalition fundraiser at the town's historic Crystal Theatre. After that, follow the tunes to one of the many stages throughout town. The days are reserved for a mix of music and begin at 11 a.m. at the local hot spots: Lou's Rocky Road Tavern and the Brick Street Café.

It's easy traveling between the two; they're right next door to each other. Lou's is the stop for an open-mic session, where you never know who might take the stage and start crooning. Brick Street offers different

acts all day long and a hearty menu. Go back and forth to sample the sounds.

For main stage action, head to Pastures of Plenty, the open-field festival that becomes a sea of lawn chairs and sunshades in the Oklahoma heat. Misting tents provide relief and add to the fun of roughing it on the open plains. Entertainers abound, with performances by greats like Pete Seeger, Jimmy LaFave, Ellis Paul, Barton & Sweeney, Don Conoscenti, and the Red Dirt Rangers.

Though the main stage usually winds down around eleven, plan on being up for a while at the Brick Street for the All Star Jams, an after-hours concert featuring festival performers in an intimate setting. Everyone joins onstage for an unforgettable jam

session that goes on for hours. Get there early to grab an ideal spot, because the basement is guaranteed to be packed. Don't be surprised if a concert-goer comes with a guitar and becomes part of the act.

If you'd rather hang out a little more low-key, find the campgrounds and join in on the sing-alongs around the fires: It's folk music at its finest, just the way Woody would have wanted it.

Maybe you know Woody Guthrie was from Okemah or that he penned "This Land Is Your Land." Maybe you don't agree with some of his politics. That's fine. His

influence on music, however, cannot be denied. Using his voice as a form of social protest, he spoke for what he believed in and brought the common man to the fore.

That concept exemplifies the festival today, bringing together performers who want to pay tribute to the man who influenced so many. Look for travelers from around the country and even the world as folks come from far and wide for a whole lot of folk.

Andrea Lopez Walker is an editorial assistant for Oklahoma Today. Her husband, Kurtis, was raised in Okemah.

Jimmy LaFave, right, and the Red Dirt Rangers, below, are frequent headliners at the Woody Guthrie Folk Festival. Both consider the Okemah native a major influence in their music.



Horses and Hounds and an Air of Civility Play Host to a Deadly Sport



The author, above, with her horse, McEvoy, has ridden in fox hunts for more than fifty years, beginning as a child in England. Wyckoff regularly hosts Harvard Fox Hounds excursions at her Pawhuska ranch.

TOM LUKER

O KLAHOMA, LAND OF the fox hunt? Yes, the sport of kings is alive and well on the prairie.

Fox hunting has not only been described, along with horse racing, as the sport of kings, but also, as Oscar Wilde wrote, the “unspeakable in pursuit of the uneatable.” But for those of us who engage in the sport, nothing, and I mean nothing, is more pleasurable.

It delights the senses and exercises mind and body. It provides companionship with others, as well as with horses and hounds. Hunts were established well before statehood and, by the 1920s, had become the sport of both ranchers and oil barons. Currently there are two recognized hunts in the

state, Artillery Hunt in Lawton and Harvard Fox Hounds in Tulsa. (In order to be “recognized” by the Masters of Fox Hounds Association of America, a hunt must follow traditional hunt practices with biddable hounds, i.e. dogs under the control of the huntsman.)

In Oklahoma, hunt club members endure hot summer months knowing that starting in November, temperatures will drop and hunting season will begin. Although we hunt in rain or snow, the perfect hunting day is damp enough to hold the scent of the prey, cool enough to keep a fit horse galloping, and warm and dry enough for the rider to be comfortable.

The scene is wondrous, with beautiful horses and hounds, trees and grass glistening with frost. The muted colors of autumn, winter, and early spring are periodically broken by the scarlet jackets peppered across the landscape. The

deep, rich smell of the earth, the woods, the hounds, and the horses remind the rider that man is but a small player in the natural order of life.

Only after the huntsman calls the hounds forward does the clatter and chatter stop; everyone must listen to the hounds. A bark may mean that they have picked up the scent of a deer or bobcat, but a long, rapturous bay by a strike hound, followed by the pack joining in, will mean that—in Oklahoma—the hounds have picked up the scent of a coyote, only rarely a gray fox.

The chase is on. We plunge through woods and across open pasture, dodging holes and jumping ditches, up into the woods again and over paneled fences at full gallop. Usually, we come to a halt only when we “run out of hunt country,” the land on which we are permitted to hunt. (In other words,



DAVID GRENSHAW

THE CHASE SIX

By Lydia L. Wyckoff





In what many have characterized as a class war, fox hunts (like this one hosted at Fort Sill by Lawton's Artillery Hunt Club) also have come under scrutiny from animal rights organizations, particularly in Great Britain.



question at all times. This brings order to what could be a chaotic and unreasonably dangerous sport.

Fox hunting is not only exciting and strenuous but includes silence and meditation. It is also social, in that during the formal season, after a hard ride of two to four hours, we all gather together for a hearty breakfast of ham and rolls or chili. It is then, in the retelling, that jumps become bigger and chases longer, the coyote more wily and hounds faster.

A former curator at the Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa, Lydia Wyckoff lives in Pawhuska.

the prey is rarely caught.)

Fox hunting is a sport for all ages and all who love riding from every walk of life. The forty-member strong Harvard Fox Hounds has riders as young as seven in the "second field," or the nonjumping group of riders, as well as those in their sixties. Fox hunting, however, is not for the timorous, nor for the wild and reckless. In order to hunt, a well-trained horse is of primary importance. That, and a confident rider, are prerequisites, but there are rules to be followed.

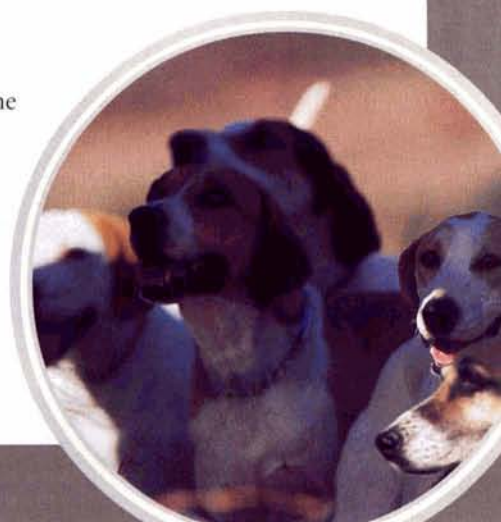
The rules of the hunt and what may seem a formal attire—from the little black caps to boots—are primarily designed for safety. The

black caps, which are mandatory, are crash helmets. English hunting saddles, designed to lessen the weight of the rider on the horse, have straps holding the stirrups, which release should the rider fall and be dragged behind the horse. These straps could move back and forth and severely pinch the leg if it weren't protected by high, tight boots.

Once above the boots, the tight trousers relax into a comfortable fit—thus, the rather odd shape of riding breeches. Scarlet jackets allow for ready identification of staff and hunt club members who may be requested to assist the huntsman at a moment's notice.

The different designs on the buttons and the colors on jacket collars hearken back to hunting's military tradition. They serve to indicate rank in the sense of experience, dedication, ability, and regiment, in that the button designs and the collar hue may identify the hunt to which you belong.

During the hunt, the master of the fox hounds determines the order of the hunt, the positioning of the whips (the riders who keep the hounds within boundaries), and the field. For a hunt to be conducted safely, the master's directions must be followed without



A Motorcyclist Discovers the Talimena Scenic Byway

JOHN ELK III

I BOUGHT MY FIRST motorcycle when I was eight years old. I've had several bikes since then, all special, all with fond memories and a few scars.

Last year, I rode my three motorcycles more than 12,000 miles, through seven states, amid perfect blue skies, cold moonlit nights, heat waves, and heavy rains.

Riding a motorcycle places you much closer to the environment than a car. You feel the cooler air when you dip into a valley. You smell the cut cedar at a sawmill. You can see rabbits in the ditches at the side of the road, and you get to taste the rain.

Oklahoma is a great state for motorcycling. Diverse landscapes, historic landmarks, beautiful state parks, and mild winters contribute to some great riding opportunities. I've cruised through most of the state's regions, and each has much



Above, Roadside wildflowers line the Talimena Scenic Byway. Below, The author with his newest toy, a 2000 model BMW 1100 cc sport touring bike, equipped with heated grips, a motorized windscreen, and antilock brakes.

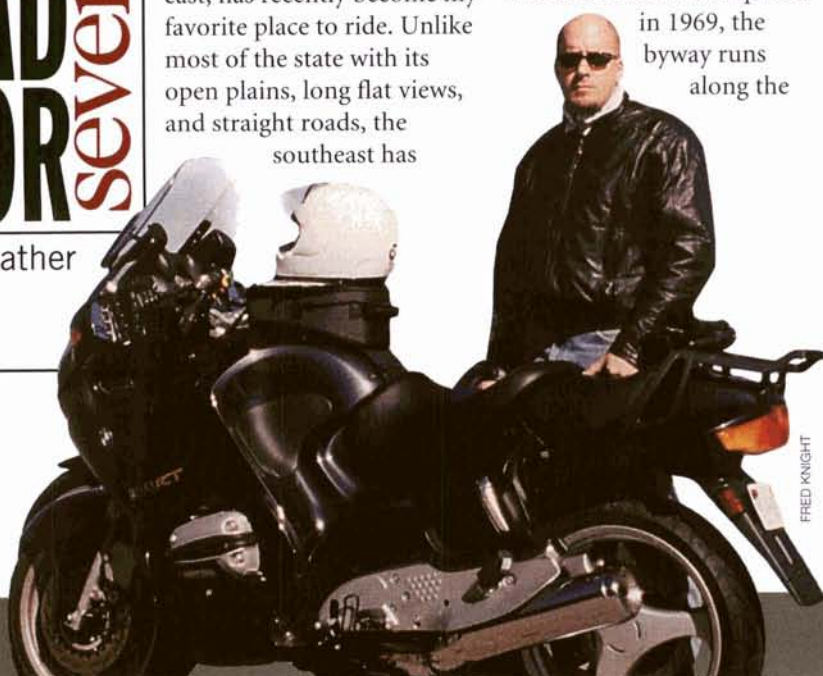
to offer. Go west and you're treated to big skies, roads less traveled, and chances to speed it up a bit. Central Oklahoma has small towns, a nice section of Route 66, and some great museums.

The eastern region of the state, especially the southeast, has recently become my favorite place to ride. Unlike most of the state with its open plains, long flat views, and straight roads, the southeast has

beautiful curves, steep hills, tall trees at the roadside, and constantly changing terrain.

Last fall, I discovered the Talimena Scenic Byway, fifty-four miles of blacktop ribbon engineered across the ridges of the Winding Stair Mountains in the Ouachita National Forest. Completed

in 1969, the byway runs along the



FRED KNIGHT

highest points between the Appalachian Mountains and the Rockies. It was the middle of October, the leaves were turning, the air was crisp, and I was ready to experience the famed drive.

Up the hill from the campground, at the visitor's

ROAD WARRIOR seven

By J.D. Merryweather



The Talimena Scenic Byway begins near Talihina and ends in Mena, Arkansas. The most spectacular views occur in the fall, but the panoramas are striking year-round.

JOHN ELK III

follow throughout the day, but this was special—we could see for miles.

As we made our way, my motorcycle and I became one—sloping into a valley, punching through a corner, downshifting and driving to the next ridge. We would zip by a scenic turnout, and I'd think about going back to drink in the view, but I was there to ride.

The terrain changes were spectacular. One moment we were deep in the trees; the next opened up into a granite slope with scrub oaks. We would climb, then make a winding descent, over and over again. Each mile was better than the last.

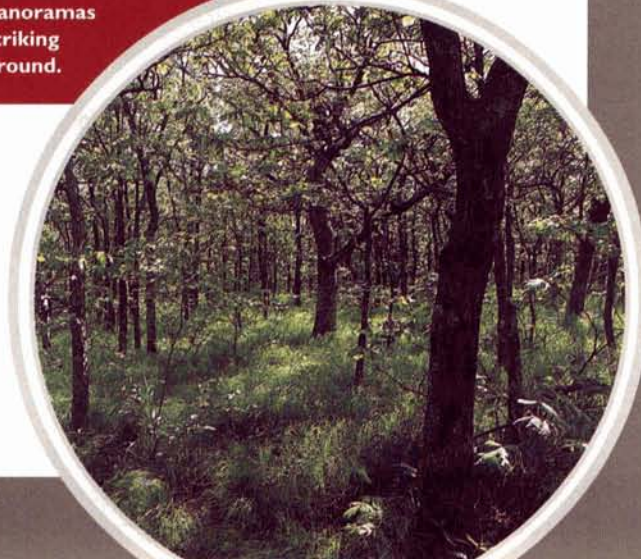
On the ride back to the campground, I decided to slow it down a little, enjoy the views. This time the rhythm was more of a waltz. Gracefully careening the turns, slowing at the vistas, stopping at the occasional turnout, we cruised our way home. Enjoying the perfect road.

Photographer J.D. Merryweather is a contributing editor to Oklahoma Today.

center, Highway 1 shoots up the mountainside. As I climbed up the serpentine trail, a large smile spread across my face. The curves were so smooth; the view to my left got bigger and bigger, and I started to develop a rhythm. My passenger gave

me a thumbs-up, and we began our dance across the ridge tops.

The sweet smell of turning leaves filled the air, clean and fresh. As we crested the first ridge, the first panoramic view spread out before us. Many would



A Place of Peace & Rest

Luxuriate at Ardmore's Shiloh Morning Inn

AS SOON AS YOU TURN OFF THE COUNTRY ROAD AND NUDGE UP against the privacy gate, you know something's going to be different about Ardmore's Shiloh Morning Inn. You punch in the four-digit code and wait for the white iron gate to slowly swing back, just able to make out the yellow siding on the big house up the hill. The sign says in curving script, "Shiloh Morning Inn: A Place of Peace and Rest." If you don't say "Aah," out loud, you say it inside. You've been needing this.

In the entry hall, husband-and-wife innkeepers Bob and Linda Humphrey greet you. Bob looks like a former football player, maybe a wrestler, and his warm smile and drawl feel like home. Linda, a petite redhead with red lipstick, has lit a scented candle, and the fragrance of something spicy—pumpkin?—wafts through the red entryway. Soft music plays.

Official "inn dog," Samuel, joins you. Even though the young Irish wolfhound stands three feet high at the shoulder, his soft brown eyes and gray whiskers tickle reassuringly as he nuzzles you. Samuel doesn't follow you to your suite; he's not allowed past the stone tile in the entryway. You open the door; you're finally here.

By Steffie Corcoran
Photography by Tom Luker







Above, On the first floor of the main house, the sitting area décor of Suite Memories, as well as the entire room, was inspired by a quilt hand-sewn by Linda Humphrey's grandmother. Inset, This four-poster bed is found in Bluebird Cottage, the most popular choice among honeymooners at Shiloh.



FOR BOB AND LINDA HUMPHREY, THAT FAMOUS LINE from *Field of Dreams* applies: "If you build it, they will come." The cost of this particular dream house comes in at \$845,000, the combined total of the Humphreys' initial investment, a loan from BancFirst, and assistance from Durant's Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma. They bought the remote, seventy-three-acre wooded section of land northeast of Ardmore in 1994. Most people, Bob explains, won't drive more than three hours to a travel destination, and Ardmore is within a two-hour drive of six million.

As locations go, it ought to work. Shiloh Morning Inn was Bob and Linda's first building project—literally from the ground up. They had land, yes, but no utilities, no buildings, no landscaping. Despite friends' warnings about the perils of such an undertaking, Linda says, "There wasn't a cross word during the whole project."

The inn's progress hummed along until four weeks from grand opening, when Linda fell off a stepladder, breaking all three ankle bones in one leg and tearing several ligaments. "Sheer panic," Linda says of her immediate reaction to being told she'd have to scoot around in a wheelchair for six weeks. Beverly Midkiff, son Chris' mother-in-law, reassured Linda it would all get done—somehow. It did.

At their home in Healdton, the Humphreys had so much to move, three eighteen-wheelers couldn't handle it all. Linda says, "People came out of the woodwork and worked. There's no telling how many people were in here." Shiloh's opening was a huge

success, and thanks to Linda's accident, she can personally vouch for Suite Memories. "We were the first people in our wheelchair accessible suite," Linda says, laughing. "We gave it a good first try."

There aren't very many oil industry-turned-bed and breakfast innkeeper teams around. "We're best friends," Linda says. Beside her, Bob nods. "We enjoy being with each other." They must: Pre-Shiloh, the Humphreys, married and in business side by side for thirty-four years, ran Healdton Oil Company, a fuel and oil wholesaler. (Chris now runs the company.) But in the late 1980s, Bob, tired of the stress, remembers thinking, "Life is short, and we ought to do something we enjoy."

The bed and breakfast idea, they admit, probably came from their years as amateur innkeepers. Healdton, a town of 3,000, doesn't have commercial accommodations. Once the Humphreys started opening their home to just about everybody traveling through, folks started calling it the "Healdton Hilton." Bob says, "We got hooked on having people there and doing nice things for them." Linda agrees: "We were addicted to surprising people and seeing their faces light up when we did little things for them."

By 1990, the idea of running a country inn had taken hold. The Humphreys first attended a New Hampshire seminar for aspiring innkeepers. Within the next few years, they traveled through Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, the East Coast, and the South, staying in thirty-five bed and breakfasts, armed with rolls of film and notebooks.

"Research, research, research," Bob says, led, by most stan-

dards, to a new and different way of running an inn. The Humphreys focused on guests rather than, as is more typical, their own tastes and preferences. "We spent probably twenty-three of each twenty-four hours studying innkeeping from the guests' perspective and one hour from the innkeepers'," Linda says.

Linda remembers one "gorgeous" castle-themed bed and breakfast in Missouri—not for its charm and ambiance, but for stifling heat. "We opened windows, but opening windows in September doesn't help," she says. "All we could do, though, was open those windows and throw the covers back. We realized, Aha! Here is something we want to avoid." Turns out the thermostat was locked in the empty room next door. It's no great surprise that at Shiloh, each suite and cottage has not only its own thermostat, but an individual heating and cooling unit.

Often, the Humphreys couldn't tell proprietors from guests. At Shiloh, Bob and Linda wear monogrammed polo shirts and black pants. In uniform, they are unmistakably the folks in charge. "If our guests need help, they know where to get it," Linda says.

Not that the Humphreys would intrude. As much as they can, they (and Samuel) stay out of sight in their large one-room apartment in the northwest corner of the house. Out of sight, yes, but not out of reach; guests can access Bob and Linda by telephone or push the house bell next to the registration desk.

All that research is paying off. Now in its second year, Shiloh Morning Inn has hosted 650 guests, 90 percent from the Oklahoma City and Dallas-Fort Worth areas, the majority couples. Many of those guests become repeat customers, and now, the Humphreys are ahead of projections, averaging fifteen couples a week.

PRIVACY—AND ROMANCE—ARE TAKEN SERIOUSLY HERE. "We don't ever knock on a guest's door," Linda says. All five suites are havens within the 6,000-square-foot oasis of the house. Each room includes a king-sized bed, fireplace, TV-VCR, and mini-refrigerator stocked with juices, soft drinks, and water. But the touches of hedonism are what set Shiloh Morning Inn apart. Spa-style monogrammed jersey robes hang in each bath. Egyptian cotton towels, softly whirring ceiling fans, whirlpools and hot tubs for two with candles nearby—it all sets the mood, and that mood is romance.

Inside the house, the five suites have distinct décors and personalities. Most popular is the Hummingbird Suite (\$149 a night), tucked away downstairs. It's the most secluded suite in the house, with eight windows, an enormous bathroom, a soft rose-red décor, and a hot tub outside on the private patio. Don't miss the starry view through the overhead latticework.

Also outfitted with a back-patio hot tub is the nostalgic Suite Memories (\$149 and wheelchair accessible). This soft purple suite with a white matelassé bedspread is Shiloh's nod to the past, particularly Linda's. Suite Memories is decorated with old family photographs; her grandmother's handmade quilt hangs on a wall.

Upstairs, the Butterfly Suite (\$135) is second to Humming-

'We were addicted to surprising people and seeing their faces light up when we did little things for them.'



Left, These ultra-comfy monogrammed robes, made by Telegraph Hill, sell for \$70. Below, Beyond this comforting bed in Tranquility, guests can enjoy a large whirlpool tub for two near the fireplace. The lace curtains in Pelican's Perch, bottom, exemplify the sunny feeling of this Caribbean-themed room.



bird in popularity among rooms in the main house. This spacious retreat with cheery yellow walls commands the best view in the house and receives spectacular morning sunlight. Exports from abroad—silk pillows from China, a Russian hand-painted samovar—surround the room.

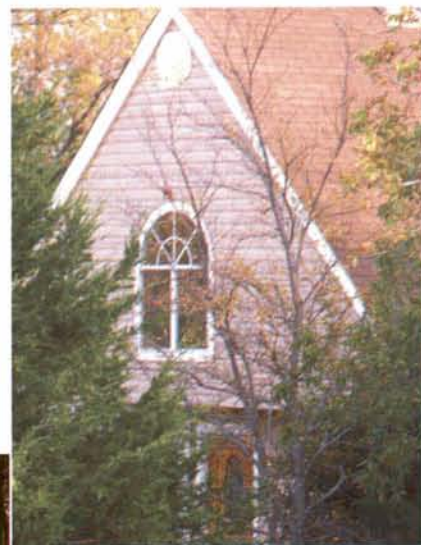
Pelican's Perch (\$135) and Tranquility (\$119) are also upstairs. Reminiscent of the Caribbean, a favorite Humphrey family vacation spot, Pelican's Perch has the color of the sea and lots of windows. Tranquility, slightly smaller, is a soothing green color with an indoor corner whirlpool.

Two freestanding cottages (\$179), located downhill from the main house, do romance one better, upping the privacy ante with more amenities and space. Bambi's House, dotted with deer décor, features warm wood floors, cathedral ceilings, an elevated bay window, wet bar, and see-through fireplace. Bluebird Cottage has a four-poster bed, leaded glass, wet bar, and a breathtaking view from the covered back porch. Both have hot tubs on the back patio for leisurely soaks. The cottages, by far the most requested of Shiloh's offerings, often book six weeks in advance.

Bob and Linda have placed memory books inside each suite and cottage. The words "beautiful," "perfect," "comfortable," "peaceful and quiet," and "attention to detail" appear repeatedly. "Paradise," one entry succinctly says. "We want to pamper our guests, to take care of them," Bob says, "so when they walk out the door, they feel like they've had an experience." Every morning at 7:30, the Humphreys serve fresh-brewed coffee. Even the toilet paper hangs in an appealing triangular shape. Linda calls it a "Pewitt fold" after the Hurst, Texas, guest who showed her how to improve on her original, less fancy-looking attempt.

Nancy Holly and her husband Earl drove down from Tulsa to celebrate their thirty-sixth wedding anniversary with plans to check out Turner Falls. "Serendipity," Nancy says—and a random Internet search—led them to Shiloh. "We were delighted

'We want to pamper our guests, to take care of them, so when they walk out the door, they feel like they've had an experience.'



From left to right, Bob and Linda Humphrey with Samuel, their beloved Irish wolfhound pup; one of three hammocks tucked away in the trees along the walking trails of the heavily wooded property; aside from the extra privacy Bambi's House ensures, it's the only cottage or suite at Shiloh with a see-through fireplace between the bedroom and living room.



The Humphreys aren't the only ones who know a good thing when they see it: Shiloh guests can frequently be found in one of the four rocking chairs on the front porch.

with the whole place," says Nancy. "We were just terribly pampered. I really wanted to stay another night."

A different anniversary—number twenty-eight—brought Doug and Allyson Lawson to Shiloh from Choctaw. Allyson says, "It was far enough from home that we felt like we were getting away. They offered so many extra things that I hadn't seen at other bed and breakfasts, like the little binoculars. That was an extra-nice touch."

The food is another nice touch. At Shiloh Morning Inn, the word "food" doesn't quite capture Linda's culinary artistry. "I love to cook," she says. "I read cookbooks like most people read novels." In 1997, to prepare for Shiloh's opening, Linda attended a European-style baking school, the International School of Baking, in Oregon. During all-day baking sessions, Linda whipped up croissants, pastries, biscotti, and French bread, then fedexed everything home to Bob, who stashed it in the freezer. "They were my patterns for when I baked at home," Linda says. Much of what she learned made its way to Shiloh's large, commercially rated kitchen.

Linda and Bob serve breakfast in the hunter green dining room each morning and, if requested, will deliver to the cottages. The round tables for two have a private feel. And the food? One guest, Don Lang of Oklahoma City, says, "I teased Linda about wanting to lick my plate, it was so good." Every three-course breakfast begins with Linda's smoothie, followed by an entrée (perhaps Camembert cheese and Canadian bacon omelets), and finishing with a sweet treat (maybe apricot brioche squares). Breakfasts rotate, and a preview card of the next morning's menu is displayed every afternoon in the dining room.

Afternoons, Linda serves wine, cheese, homemade pickles (canned by her eighty-two-year-old mother, Hazel Jones), and other goodies for just-checked-in guests. The food looks as good as it tastes. Don't be surprised if the cheeses are served in a leaf arrangement. On weekends and some holidays, Linda prepares dinner for guests for an added charge.

Sometimes guests get restless. Hot-tubbing, cuddling by the fire, and high-comfort lounging have been known to inspire activity. Lucky for Shiloh's guests, the seventy-three-acre secluded property has walking trails with benches here and there, bird-watching, a pond, even almost-hidden hammocks

for relaxing in the great outdoors. Linda's dad, eighty-seven-year-old John Jones, built twenty-eight bluebird houses and hung them all over the property, saving one for the Bluebird Cottage. Bob and Linda still haven't spotted them all.

For indoor creature comforts, the library has board games (everything from Scrabble to Boggle), backgammon, cards, checkers, and an extensive book and video collection. A good read or a movie should complement those moonlight-flooded windows nicely.

While guests find their way to Shiloh by referral, media coverage, or a click onto the inn's website, they generally leave a little, well, altered. The Humphreys recall one schoolteacher from the Dallas area who, upon arrival, could best be described as "wound-up." Just before checkout, she came into the common living room, Linda says, "Kind of melted into the chair, and said, 'I don't want to leave.'" Another Dallas couple had one problem with Shiloh Morning Inn. They told Bob, "We've got one complaint: Could you get twenty-five hours in a day?"

Shiloh Morning Inn is ten miles northeast of Ardmore just off Highway 177. Shiloh is a totally nonsmoking and child-free property. Don't worry about Oklahoma storms; the inn's office is a safe room. Two-night stays are mandatory on weekends. Call the Humphreys at (888) 554-7674 to make a reservation. ShilohMorning.com.

FRESH Fruit smoothie



- 1/4 cantaloupe, peeled and cut into one-inch cubes
- 1/4 honeydew melon, peeled and cut into one-inch cubes
- 1 pint strawberries, washed and sliced
- 1 cup red seedless grapes, washed and stemmed
- 1 banana, peeled and sliced into one-inch pieces
- 1 six-ounce container of fruit-flavored yogurt

Mix prepared fruit together and place in covered freezer container. Freeze overnight. About one hour before serving, remove the fruit from the freezer and allow it to soften slightly. Just before serving, break up the fruit mixture. Place the yogurt and the fruit into the container of an extra heavy-duty blender. Process until smooth. Serve immediately. Serves four.

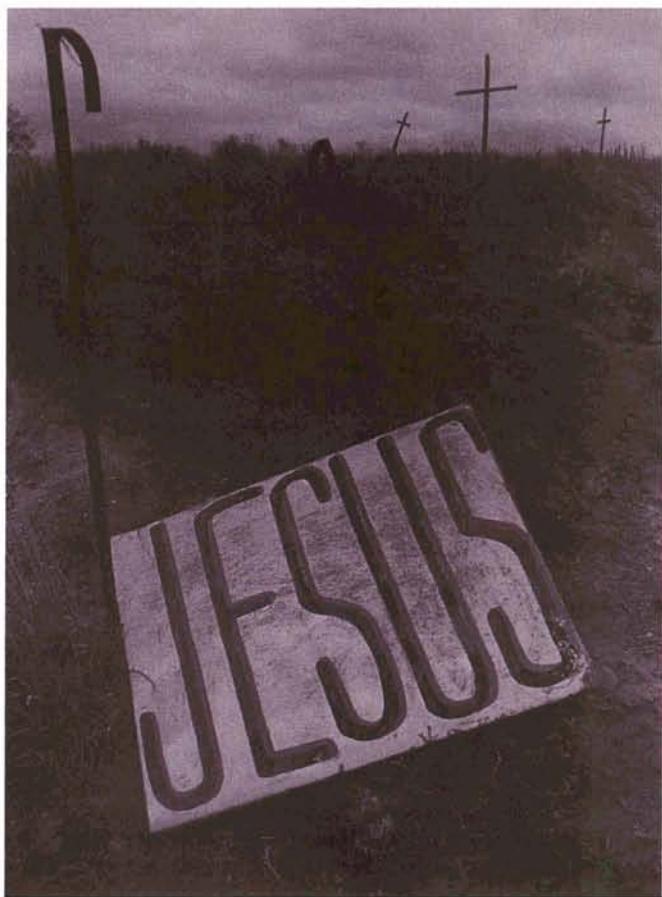
Be sure to use only fresh fruit; processed fruit will not have the same flavor.

It's a Sign from God

WE ASKED FOR IT; WE GOT IT. IN OUR SEPTEMBER-October 2000 issue, we asked for photographs with that good old Oklahoma feel. Among our finalists, a little wildlife, a little wilderness, a big statement. Now that's what we call something for everyone. And the grand prize winner? The quintessential light against dark.

First Place

Sometimes a word says so much. On his way home, Greg Owings of Norman came upon this powerful reminder, 'Local Hero,' while traveling west on Highway 62.



Second Place

Autumn in rural Oklahoma. Words aren't adequate, but a picture? Homer Hulme of Chickasha found a way with 'Trout Waiting.'



Third Place

The gentlest among us need the most protection. In 'Hold Still,' James Easton of Chandler seizes a fleeting moment.

Honorable Mention

Randall Murrow of Norman went to great lengths to get this road shot, 'Mt. Scott View No. 1,' from the very top.



Paula Thummel of Yukon photographed her daughter and granddaughter in a contemporary representation of 'The Modern Pioneer Woman.'



Bob Humphrey of Ardmore stopped his weed trimmer just in the nick of time to run home and grab his camera. 'Fawn in Hiding' was the result.



This 'Oklahoma Man' time-traveled to the El Reno Historical Society grounds, and luckily, Jim Johnson of El Reno was in the right place.



Grandeur is grandeur, day or night. A lambent view of the 'Capitol by Night' from Okmulgee's Lee Boyd.



From the depths, Dick Clapp of Noble sees the water come tumbling down in 'Post Oak Falls.'



Bahn Appetit

Café Bahnhof Brings Fine Dining with a Bavarian Flair to Waynoka

Dieter and Nathalie Dorner make a traditional German *prost*, a toast to health; A typical German specialty—bratwurst and sauerkraut—served with a pretzel and a stein of beer.

BRINGING A LITTLE EUROPEAN CULTURE TO WOODS COUNTY.” That’s how Dieter Dorner sees it. As owner of Café Bahnhof in Waynoka, he has not only brought a different culture to this small town in northwest Oklahoma, he has established a German community.

It all started about ten years ago, when Dorner visited friends in Waynoka. Eventually, they convinced him to open a German restaurant in their sleepy town. Dorner moved his wife Elke, daughter Nathalie, then twenty-one, and nineteen-year-old son Oliver from their hometown of Nuremberg in Bavaria to Waynoka, Oklahoma.

A big jump? “No,” says Dorner. “I’ve been traveling to the states since the early 1970s. I knew what to expect.” Not even homesick? Bavaria is known for some of the world’s premier foods and wines, not to mention some of the most beautiful alpine landscapes in Europe. “I saw that every day,” says Nathalie, who, like her dad, speaks English with a soft German accent. “Here, I am in awe of the big, open spaces. Besides, we get back home quite often.”

After the big move to Oklahoma, the Dorners gutted a building in downtown Waynoka they bought while visiting friends in 1996 and began the renovation process. The rear wall was pushed back to enlarge the main dining area. Yellow and orange paints, reflecting Oklahoma’s earth tones, were chosen for the walls and trim, in beautiful contrast to the dark hardwood floors and massive wooden tables.

By Mimi Rippee

Photography by J.D. Merryweather





Above, Café Bahnhof serves only German beers. Although the five shown here are on tap, bottled beers are also available. Inset, Chef Clayton Frank sautées mixed vegetables.

A Bavarian friend, artist Wolfgang Urban, flew in to help design the restaurant, everything for which was made in Oklahoma (including the bar, wine rack, cabinets, and stair railing). He painted murals on the walls, adding European elegance to the bilevel café. Lastly, an outdoor *biergarten* was constructed behind the restaurant.

On December 4, 1998, the Dorner family opened Café Bahnhof. “Bahnhof,” which means train station, suits Waynoka; the Burlington Northern Santa Fe tracks run directly through downtown. Scattered around the restaurant are mementos from Germany: German travel books, marionettes handcrafted by German artisans, blue and white flags reflecting the national colors of Bavaria, and the obligatory beer steins that add to the restaurant’s atmosphere.

The jump to restaurateur was not a big one for Dieter Dorner. “In Germany, this would be considered family-style dining. But here in northwest Oklahoma, this is considered fine dining. It’s probably because of the tablecloths.”

Nathalie, too, confesses to very little restaurant experience prior to running Café Bahnhof. “But I’ve been to lots of restaurants!” It’s not as funny as it sounds, Nathalie explains. “In Europe, you spend a lot of time in restaurants. Not just eating.

It’s a longer process, the whole dining experience.”

Not surprisingly, Dorner serves five German beers at Café Bahnhof. “I will not compromise on beer. Beer on tap is better quality, and I think German beer is the best and purest.” He explains that beer brewing in Germany follows strict criteria in accordance with the German Purity Law of 1617. Nothing but malt, hops, and water allowed.

Clayton Frank, also known as Chef Duck (a lingering nickname from his sales days), is in charge of the kitchen and menu at Café Bahnhof. Originally from Aline, just fifteen minutes from Waynoka, Frank attended culinary school in Plano, Texas, where he trained in classical French techniques. He interned at the Bavarian Grill, a German restaurant in Plano, and was eventually hired as chef. There, he became adept at whipping up his personal favorite, the *sauerbraten*, as well as *Wiener schnitzel*, *sauerkraut*, and other German specialties.

Coincidentally, while home visiting his parents, the Frank family dined at Café Bahnhof soon after it opened and met the Dorners. Frank and Dorner discussed the restaurant’s need for a permanent chef, and Frank was offered the job right then and there as chef and kitchen manager.

“I didn’t mind leaving Dallas,” he says. “It was an opportu-

nity to move close to my family.” Café Bahnhof, Frank explains, is slower paced and more personable than what he was used to in Dallas. “Here, I can go into the dining room and talk to the customers. Plus, it’s personally rewarding to see people eating and smiling.”

The German specialties change nightly, but bratwurst is a menu staple. “Before we opened, we flew in a German butcher to teach us about bratwurst,” says Dorner. “Then he taught the Waynoka butcher how to prepare it.” Dieter’s German sausage has become so popular that the restaurant sells the uncooked bratwurst at \$5 per pound; it is also available wholesale in large quantities.

When not working on traditional German entrées and side dishes like *spatzele* and red cabbage, Frank bakes breads and prepares desserts. The chocolate cheesecake is among patrons’ favorites and “cannot be taken off the menu,” according to Frank. Other specialties include Bavarian cream with fresh berries and apple strudel.

The German customers and the German management are, according to Frank, the best things about working at Café Bahnhof. “They’re kind people and lots of fun,” he says. The Dorners host several food fests throughout the year, including Oktoberfest, Mardi Gras, a New Year’s celebration, and some nontraditional celebrations, all with live music. Photographs show happy revelers, and Frank is clearly right: This German family knows how to have a good time.

And they are a close family. Dorner’s son and daughter-in-law have moved to Woodward, and some old neighbors in Nuremberg have also transplanted, forming a small German community in northwest Oklahoma. On this particular day, the phone rings at least twenty times, calls from German friends and family who have heard about the devastating Oklahoma ice storms. In German, Nathalie and her parents take turns assuring their loved ones they’re okay, that they do indeed have electricity.

After more than two years in business, Café Bahnhof’s dedicated patrons come from nearby Enid and as far away as Amarillo, Kansas, and Tulsa for authentic German meals. Through the restaurant’s e-mail address, guests can make reservations and order bratwurst.

Dorner’s enterprising nature has led him into the world of catering as well. “We can put on a Bavarian party anywhere in the state, complete with blue and white tablecloths and napkins.” Authentic music and dress completes the catered experience.

Lunch on this day is served on a traditional, heart-shaped pewter plate: three bratwurst on a bed of juniper berry-dotted sauerkraut, horseradish sauce on the side, and a mini garlic baguette. “*Guten appetit*,” Dorner’s quiet wife utters, still not confident about her English. The meal, of course, is *wunderbar*—home cooking taken to an extraordinary level. 

Café Bahnhof is located at 131 East Cecil in Waynoka. The restaurant is open for dinner Tuesday through Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and for lunch on Friday only, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (580) 824-0063. The restaurant’s website, cafe-bahnhof.com, should be fully operational in March; the e-mail address is cafebahnhof@yahoo.com.

BEEF Roulade



**Beef, sliced (cut thin,
usually from the round)
Dijon mustard
Smoked bacon
Sautéed onions**

**Dill pickle spears
Red wine
Beef stock
Salt, pepper,
and garlic**

Mix equal parts of salt, black pepper, and granulated garlic together and dust the work surface with the mixture. Lay beef slices out flat and brush with mustard. Place a strip of bacon on each piece of beef and cover with a thick layer of onions. Place a pickle spear at one end and roll up; secure with a toothpick. Sear all sides of the roulade in a pan, until a rich brown color is present. Place roulades in a pan large enough to submerge them for braising. Deglaze the original pan with a generous amount of onions and place in the pan with roulades. Fill the braising pan with a mixture of three parts beef stock (unsalted), one part red wine, and any pickle juice and ends of pickles, enough to cover the roulades. Braise in oven at 400 degrees for about an hour. Unroll to check for doneness.

Reduction Sauce

Pour all liquids and everything from cooking into a large stockpot and reduce by half. Purée the reduction in a blender. Blend only small amounts at a time to avoid overflows and take care with hot liquids. Strain the reduction into another pot. Adjust the flavor to taste by adding any combination of beef broth, red wine, salt, pepper, pickle juice, or mustard. “The sauce really makes the dish,” says Dorner. He also suggests pairing it with wild rice, noodles, or steamed potatoes and cucumber salad in a light dill sauce. Serve with a light Merlot or a hearty pilsner.

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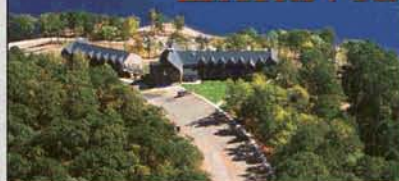
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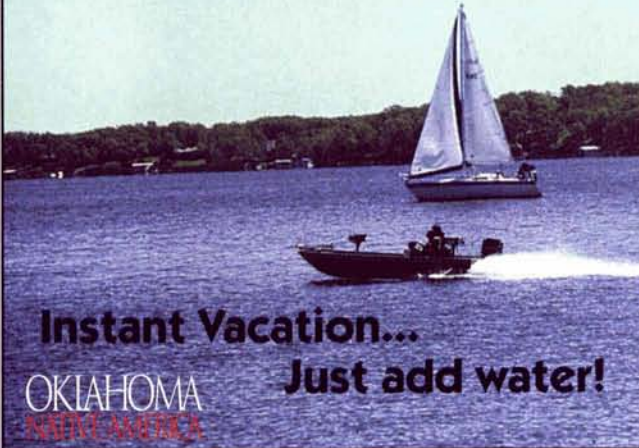
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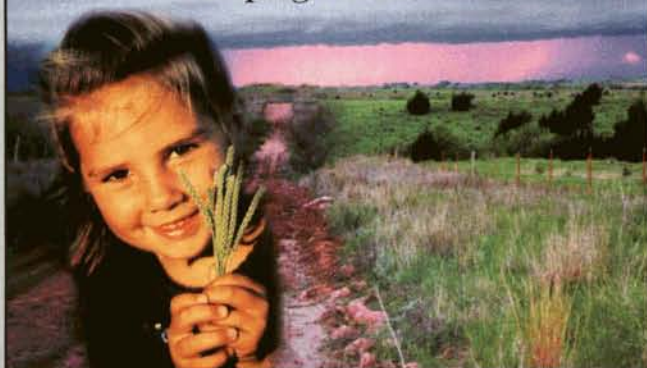
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BEST BETS



March 3

Blue Door favorite Lucy Kaplansky returns to play her unique brand of contemporary folk music. (405) 524-0738

March 26

Lady Margaret Thatcher speaks at OSU's Gallagher-Iba Arena in Stillwater. (405) 744-7509



April 5

Spring equals baseball when Oklahoma teams take the field for opening day of the new season. Oklahoma RedHawks, (405) 218-1000; Tulsa Drillers, (918) 744-5998



April 7

Check out the legendary Charlie Daniels Band at the historic Ponca Theatre in Ponca City. (580) 765-0943



April 14

Learn traditional Cherokee pottery techniques from artist Victoria Mitchell Vazquez at Tahlequah's Cherokee Heritage Center. (918) 456-6007



April 21-30

Browse the hand-crafted ceramics of Lana Wilson during the ongoing exhibit at Norman's Firehouse Art Center. (405) 329-4523



★ Editors' Picks

CALENDAR

EDMOND

ACROSS THE BOARD

Mitchell Hall Theatre UCO Campus Mar 25: Captivating Classics Vocal. Apr 19-22: The House of Bernarda Alba. Apr 26: Swing Dance America. (405) 340-3500

Oklahoma Christian University Mar 24, Apr 29: Philadelphia Foundation Concert Series, (405) 285-1010. Apr 27, 28: The Adventures of Stuart Little, (405) 340-4481

Mar 1-Apr 30 Murrah Building Art Collection, Chambers Library at UCO Campus, (405) 974-3361

ENID

ACROSS THE BOARD

Gaslight Theatre Mar 9-17: The Woman in Black. Mar 30, 31: A Coupla White Chicks Sitting Around Talking. (580) 234-2307

Mar 1, 2 Winter Chautauqua, Enid Symphony Center, (580) 237-1907

Apr 7 Corvette Expo, Chisholm Trail Expo Center, (580) 233-6555

LAWTON

ACROSS THE BOARD

Apr 6-22 To Kill a Mockingbird, Community Theatre, (580) 355-1600

Apr 7, 14 Prince of Peace Easter Pageant, Holy City of the Wichitas, Wichita Mountains, (580) 429-3361

Apr 12-15, 19-22 Hedda Gabler, Cameron University Studio Theatre, (580) 581-2478

Apr 20, 21 Lawton City Ballet presents Peter & the Wolf, McMahon Memorial Auditorium, (580) 248-2001

MUSKOGEE

ACROSS THE BOARD

Mar 3 Grand Opening Celebration, Three Rivers Museum, (918) 686-6624

★ **Apr 1-30 Azalea Festival**, Honor Heights Park, (918) 684-6305

Apr 7-30 Art Under the Oaks, Five Civilized Tribes Museum, (918) 683-1701

Apr 16 Bus Tour Through the Black Towns, Civic Center, (918) 684-6359.

Apr 20-22, 27-29 Little Shop of Horrors, Little Theatre, (918) 683-4901

NORMAN

ACROSS THE BOARD

Firehouse Art Center Mar 1-11: Agnes Foret Fiber Arts Exhibit. Mar 17-Apr 15: Biennial Photo Competition & Exhibit. (405) 329-4523

Fred Jones Museum of Art 410 W Boyd. Mar 1-11: Allan Houser—Water, and J. Donald Walp Inuit Art Collection. (405) 325-3272

Jacobson House 609 Chautauqua Ave. Mar 1-4: The Santa Fe Art of Ouray Meyers & Paul Jones. Apr 5-25: First Americans—First Oklahomans Photographic Exhibit. Apr 13-15: RETAIN Art Show. Apr 27: Poetry Reading. (405) 366-1667

Rupel Jones Theatre Mar 8-11: Modern Repertory Dance. Mar 29-Apr 8: Moon over Buffalo. Apr 19-29: Guys & Dolls. (405) 325-4101

Sooner Theatre 101 E Main. Mar 31: the Nylons. Apr 27, 28: Sooner Follies. (405) 321-8091

Mar 4 Organ Concert—Olivier Latry, Catlett Music Center, (405) 325-4101

Apr 6-8 Medieval Fair, Brandt Park Duck Pond, (405) 288-2536

Apr 21 '89ers Day Festivities, Downtown, (405) 321-0156

OKLAHOMA CITY

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

IAO Artspace 1 N Hudson. Mar 3-31: Biting the Apple—Spring Celebration. April 6-30: Mixed Media Exhibition. (405) 232-6060

Kirkpatrick Galleries & Planetarium at the Omniplex Mar 1-19: Winter Nights. Mar 1-30: In the Dark. Mar 1-Apr 30: Explorers of Mauna Kea. Mar 1-Apr 30: The Vision Maker—The Paintings of Mirac Creepingbear. Mar 3-Apr 1: Oklahoma Art Guild Juried Art Show. Mar 9-31: Red Earth Master Artist Show. Mar 9-Apr 29: Robert Maker—Retrospect. Mar 20-Apr 30: Spring Nights. Apr 7-30: Annual Fiber Art Show. (405) 602-6664

Nat'l Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum Mar 1-11: Will Rogers—A Reel Retrospective.

★ Mar 1-Apr 30: Jerome Tiger—Native Son. Mar 1-Apr 30: Legends of Our Time. Mar 17: Cowboy Poetry Gathering. (405) 478-2250

Oklahoma City Art Museum Mar 1-Apr 30: The Big Picture—Realities & Imaginings. Mar 4-25: Film Series—Robert Motherwell & the New York School and Open Your Eyes. (405) 946-4477

Mar 3-Apr 7 Oklahoma Painting & Drawing Biennial, City Arts Center, (405) 232-6991

★ **Mar 31, Apr 1 Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition Presents Open Studio Tour**, Citywide, (405) 232-6991

ON THE STAGE

Blue Door Mar 3: Lucy Kaplansky. Mar 10: Cindy Bullens. Mar 23: Joel Melton. Mar 25: The Groobeers. Mar 29, 30: Willis Alan Ramsey. Apr 7: Peter Case. Apr 19, 20: Jimmy LaFave. Apr 28, 29: Ellis Paul. (405) 524-0738

Carpenter Square Theatre ★ Mar 1-10: The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Mar 23-Apr 14:

Beloved Oklahoma

She walked through the clover, growing golden everywhere.
 She let the morning sun touch the highlights of her hair.
 She stopped to hear a bird sing as if his throat would burst.
 And she knew that he never had rehearsed.
 She watched a summer cloud float across a sky of blue,
 Never reasoning why, she just knew it to be true.
 A breeze brushed her face and spread wildflowers' aroma
 She knew the place, her beloved Oklahoma.

—Van Meigs

*Born in Copan, Oklahoma, Meigs, seventy, is retired and an occasional poet.
 Though he has long made his home in Missouri, he loves his home state.*

The Beauty Queen of Leenane. (405) 232-6500
City Arts Center Mar 1-9: The Three Little Porker Sisters. Apr 12-29: Aladdin. (405) 951-0011

Kirkpatrick Fine Arts Center at OCU Campus
 Mar 2,3: The Oklahoma Opera & Music Theater Company presents The Old Maid & the Thief. Apr 20-22: The Oklahoma Opera & Music Theater Company presents The King and I. (405) 521-5227

Oklahoma City Philharmonic at Rose State
 Mar 23,24: Riders in the Sky—The Cowboy Way. Mar 30,31: Making Waves. Apr 20,21: An Evening with Toni Tenille. (405) 842-5387

Mar 28-31 Much Ado About Nothing, Stage Center, (405) 270-4801

Mar 31 Carol Brice Series presents Lauren Stewart, Black Liberated Arts Center at Metro Technology Center, (405) 524-3800

Apr 8 Oklahoma City Philharmonic presents Peter & the Wolf Meet Alice in Wonderland, Putnam City North High School, (405) 842-5387

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Mar 24,25 Scottish Heritage Festival, Joe B. Barnes Regional Park, (405) 387-3942

Apr 18-30 Celebramos Exhibit & Festival, City Arts Center, (405) 951-0000

★ **Apr 24-29 Festival of the Arts**, Myriad Botanical Gardens, (405) 270-4848

SPECIAL EVENTS

State Fairgrounds Mar 20-25: Spring Fair. Mar 22-25: Shrine Circus. (405) 948-6700

Mar 1-Apr 30 OmniDome Theatre presents Magic of Flight—Journey into Amazing Caves, Omniplex, (405) 602-6664

Mar 1-Apr 30 A Passion for Palms, Myriad Botanical Gardens, (405) 297-3995

Mar 23 The Chef's Feast, Nat'l Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, (405) 972-1111

RUNS, RIDES, & WALKS

Apr 7,8 Redbud Classic, Waterford Complex, (405) 842-8295

Apr 28 Oklahoma City American Heart Walk, Bricktown Ballpark, (405) 942-2444

LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

Meinders School of Business at OCU ★ Mar 22: Dr. David Carmichael—The Spiritual Side of Leadership & Management. April 19: Bo Monnot—Machiavellian Intelligence. (405) 521-5421

★ **Mar 31 Southern Living Gardening School**, Myriad Botanical Gardens, (405) 297-3995

Apr 7,8 Fiberworks Workshop—Classic Crackle & More, Nat'l Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, (405) 917-5233

SHAWNEE

ACROSS THE BOARD

Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center Mar 2-4: Car Club Show & Swap Meet. Mar 21-25: Speed Horse Gold & Silver Cup Futurity. Apr 21,22: Garland Arts & Crafts Show. (405) 275-7020

Oklahoma Baptist University Mar 2,3: Theatre for Young People. Apr 26-28: On the Verge. (405) 878-2347

St. Gregory's University Mar 2-4: City of Angels. Mar 30-Apr 1: Noonie's Masterpiece in Purple. Apr 6: Spirit & Sole. ★ Apr 27-29: Antigone. (405) 878-5100

★ **Mar 9-Apr 1 Art of New Guinea**, Mabey-Gerrard Museum of Art, (405) 878-5300

Apr 20-28 God's Favorite, Little Theatre, (405) 275-2805

STILLWATER

ACROSS THE BOARD

Gardiner Art Gallery at OSU Campus Mar 1-16: Cricket Apple Ceramics Exhibit. Mar 26-Apr 11: Studio Art Student Invitational Exhibition. Apr 16-25: Graphic Design Portfolio Exhibition. Apr 30: Annual Juried Student Art Exhibit. (405) 744-6016

Sheerar Cultural Center Mar 26: Oil Painting Demonstration. Apr 23: Mixed Media Painting Demonstration. (405) 377-4766

Mar 15 OSU Allied Arts presents Berlin Chamber Orchestra, Seretean Center Concert Hall, OSU Campus, (405) 744-7509

Apr 21 Celebrate Stillwater Festival, Citywide, (405) 743-3697

Apr 21 Run for the Arts, Couch Park, (405) 747-8084

TAHLEQUAH

Cherokee Heritage Center Mar 10: Traditional Cherokee Finger Weaving Class. Mar 25: The Murrell Home—Restoration of History. Apr 26,27: Indian Territory Days. Apr 29: Photographic Images from Indian Territory. (918) 456-6007

NSU Performing Arts Center Mar 9: Unforgettable—the Nat King Cole Story. Mar 30: Behind the Broken Words. Apr 19-21: American Indian Symposium. (918) 456-5511

Apr 14 Cherokee Cruisin' Classics Car Show, Lake Tenkiller, (918) 458-9090

TULSA

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Gilcrease Museum Mar 1-Apr 1: Rave Reviews: American Art & Its Critics, 1826-1925. Apr 27-30: Rendezvous 2001. (918) 596-2700

Mar 1-Apr 30 Bits & Pieces: The Art of Patchwork, Int'l Linen Registry Needle Art Museum, (918) 622-5223

Mar 11-Apr 30 Woven Worlds—Basketry from the Clark Field Collection, Philbrook Museum of Art, (918) 749-7941

Apr 5-25 TU Student Exhibition, Alexandre Hogue Gallery, (918) 631-2202

ON THE STAGE

Heller Theatre Mar 23, Apr 6: Laughing Matter Improv. Mar 26: Teen Laughing Matter. Apr 19-28: Vital Signs. (918) 746-5065

Tulsa Performing Arts Center Mar 3: Tulsa Philharmonic presents Corey Cerovsek, (918) 747-7445. ★ Mar 4: KODO Drummers of Japan, (918) 596-7111. Mar 9,10: Tulsa Philharmonic with Roger Williams, (918) 747-7473. Mar 19: Armchair Traveler Series—Ireland. Mar 29-31: Octafest 2001, (918) 596-7111. Mar 31: Tulsa Philharmonic—Mozart's Requiem, (918) 747-7445. Apr 6,7: Bonnie Rideout Scottish Trio. Apr 9: Armchair Traveler Series—Scandinavian Holiday. ★ Apr 10: James & the Giant Peach, (918) 596-7111. Apr 21,27,29: Tulsa Opera presents The Marriage of Figaro, (918) 587-4811

Mar 18 Tulsa Philharmonic Lollipops present Music on the Move, Holland Hall, (918) 747-7445

CALENDAR

★ Editors' Picks

SPECIAL EVENTS

Expo Center & Fairgrounds Mar 9,10: Children & Maternity Clothing Sale. Mar 9-11: Antique & Auto Show. Apr 20-22: Early Ford V-8 Swap Meet. (918) 744-1113

Garden Center 2435 S Peoria. Apr 9: The Flavor Connection for Herbal Arts—an Evening with Gwen Barclay & Madalene Hill. ★ Apr 13,14: Spring Garden Market. Apr 21: Bonsai Show. Apr 28: Iris Show & Sale. (918) 746-5125

OUT & ABOUT

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Plains Indians & Pioneers Museum Woodward Mar 1-31: Paul Laune Competition. Apr 1-30: Gallery Show—Edana Caldwell & Maude Lansford. (580) 256-6136

★ **Mar 1-Apr 30 Woodworking Exhibition**, Beavers Bend Resort Park, Broken Bow. (580) 494-6300

ON THE STAGE

Community Center Bartlesville. Mar 10: Symphony Orchestra presents The Prism Quartet. (918) 337-2787. Mar 17: Women's Network presents The Yellow Rose. Mar 22: Garden Center Convention. Mar 29-31: Theater Guild presents Opal's Million Dollar Duck. Apr 7: Choral Society presents Close to Our Hearts. (918) 333-1226. Apr 22: Young Artists Concert. (918) 337-2787

Fine Arts Center Weatherford. ★ Mar 6: Merge Right: Left Brain Closed Ahead. Apr 1: SWOSU presents Oklahoma City Philharmonic. (580) 774-3063

A Poet Among Us

NOBEL PRIZE WINNER VISITS TULSA



As the luck of the Irish would have it, the University of Tulsa will feature an April appear-

ance by world-renowned Irish poet Seamus Heaney, author of *Opened Ground: Selected Poems 1966-1996*. In 1995, Heaney became the first Irish poet to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature since William Butler Yeats in 1923. His lecture will take place on Wednesday, April 25, at 7 p.m. at the Allen Chapman Activity Center on campus. Free. (918) 631-2530.

—Priscilla Mohnkern

Mar 3 Twelve Angry Men, Pollard Theatre, Guthrie, (405) 292-2800

Mar 23, 24 Early Bird Bluegrass Music Show, OSU Extension Auditorium, Hugo, (580) 326-5598

Apr 8 Palm Sunday Pageant & Play, Scottish Rite Temple, McAlester, (918) 423-6360

Apr 13-15,20-22 The Dark at the Top of the Stairs, Community Theatre, Sapulpa, (918) 227-2169

★ **Apr 19-22 The Male Animal**, Little Theatre, Miami, (918) 540-2425

Apr 20-29 Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean, Community Playhouse, Broken Arrow, (918) 258-0077

Apr 21 Sounds of Spring, Cherokee Landing State Park, Park Hill, (918) 773-6303

Apr 28 Pioneer Days Country Western Concert, Texas County Activity Center, Guymon, (580) 338-3376

RODEO & HORSE EVENTS

Lazy-E Arena Guthrie. Mar 9-11: Timed Event Championship of the World. April 20,21: '89ers Days PRCA Rodeo. (405) 282-7433

Apr 19-21 SWOSU Collegiate Rodeo, Don Mitchell Arena, Weatherford, (580) 774-3063

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Apr 6,7 Dogwood Days Festival, Central & Main, Idabel, (580) 286-3305

Apr 7 Tulips-a-Bloom Festival, Downtown, Blackwell, (580) 363-4195

Apr 14-23 Cimarron Territory Celebration, Fairgrounds, Beaver, (580) 625-4726

Apr 17-22 '89er Day Celebration, Downtown, Guthrie, (405) 282-1947

Apr 19-21 '89er Celebration, Downtown, Lexington, (405) 527-9793

Apr 20-22 Rattlesnake Festival, Downtown, Apache, (580) 588-2880

Apr 21 '89er Day Celebration, Heritage Park, El Reno, (405) 262-1188

Apr 28 Herb & Plant Festival, Downtown, Jenks, (918) 299-4101

SPECIAL EVENTS

Greenleaf State Park Braggs. Mar 10: Fly-a-Kite Day. Apr 14: Easter Extravaganza. (918) 487-7125

Wichita Mountains Nat'l Wildlife Refuge Indianola. Mar 10,17,24: Historical Sites Tour. Mar 23,24: Stars over the Wichitas. Apr 14,15: Wilderness Hike. (580) 429-3222

Mar 3,4 Welcome Back Weekend, Cherokee Yacht Club, Ketchum, (918) 782-4421

Mar 10 Eagle Watch Lake Tours, Lake Wister State Park, Wister, (918) 655-7886

Mar 14-Apr 30 Spring Blossom Viewing, Ouachita Nat'l Forest, Talihina, (918) 567-3434

Mar 17 Family Kite Flight Day, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro, (918) 962-2062

★ **Mar 17 Kelly Miller Circus & Train**, Fairgrounds, Hugo, (580) 326-9229

Mar 24 Kite Flight & Family Fun Day, Sequoyah State Park, Wagoner, (918) 772-2545

Apr 15 Easter Sunrise Service, Runestone State Park, Heavener, (918) 653-2241

Apr 21 Hobo Dinner & Pie Auction, Katy Depot, Checotah, (918) 473-5872

Apr 21,22 Rattlesnake Hunt, Downtown, Waynoka, (580) 435-2324

Apr 27-29 Rattlesnake Derby & Flea Market, Downtown, Mangum, (580) 782-2434

RUNS, RIDES, & WALKS

Mar 17,18 Western Okie Spokie Mountain Bike Classic, Lake Elk City, Elk City, (580) 225-2453

Mar 20,21 Vernal Equinox Night & Day Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro, (918) 962-2062

Mar 31 Art Walk, Downtown, Guthrie, (405) 260-2345

Apr 14 Warriors Children's Run, High School Football Stadium, Pawnee, (918) 762-2493

For more Calendar listings, visit our website at oklahomatoday.com.

Dates and times are subject to change; please confirm before attending any event. The calendar is a free service published on a space-available basis. To be considered, please mail a concise notice of the event (a separate page for each event) that includes date, time, place, address, admission prices, and both a contact telephone number and a phone number that can be published. Notices must arrive at Oklahoma Today three calendar months prior to publication (i.e. July-August events are due April 1). Send to: Entertainment Calendar, Oklahoma Today, P.O. Box 53384, Oklahoma City, OK 73152 or fax: (405) 522-4588. Address electronic mail to calendar@oklahomatoday.com. Questions? Call (405) 521-2496; we cannot, however, take listings over the telephone.

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2001 Major Events Schedule

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Apr. 7 - 8 | Outdoor Indian Market |
| Apr. 7 - 30 | Art Under The Oaks Gallery Exhibit |
| July 1 - 31 | Competitive Art Show |
| Oct. 6 - 31 | Masters Art Show |

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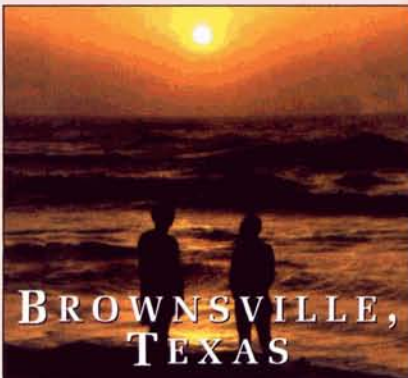


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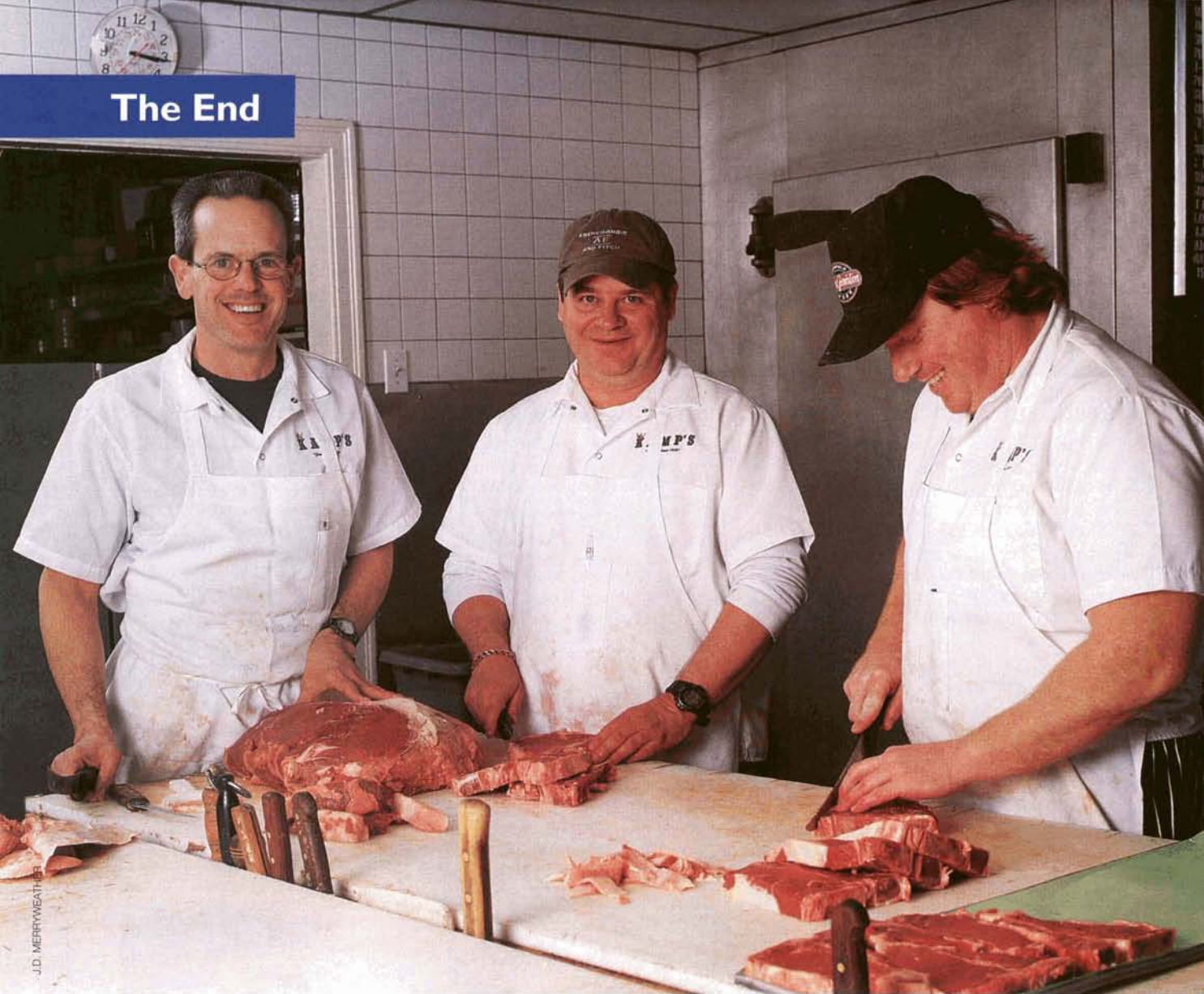


Jazz in June

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The End



J.D. MERRYWEATHER

Left to right, At Kamp's, former employees Bill Kamp, Luther Baker, and Gary Whitlock show their cutting ways in this photo taken last year for *Oklahoma Today*. Of his family's long history behind the butcher counter, Bill Kamp, 44, says, 'Working with my father was absolutely remarkable, the greatest experience of my life.' Kamp, who resigned in January, plans to spend more time with his sixteen-month-old daughter and hopes to find a position in the meat sector of the food services industry.

De-Kamping the Meat Market, 1910-2001

ON JANUARY 5, 2001, MEAT CUTTER BILL Kamp worked his last day behind the butcher counter at Kamp's Grocery. For the first time since opening in Oklahoma City ninety-one years ago on Northwest Twenty-fifth Street west of Classen, no direct descendant of Bill's grandfather, William F. Kamp, is associated with the meat market that bears the family name.

Oh, the memories. With a small inheritance, Henry H. Kamp founded Kamp's back in 1910. Younger brother William and half brother Fred soon became partners. A legion of German-born Kamps followed in their footsteps, working long hours in the charming mom-and-pop grocery known for its baked goods, commitment to customer service, and outstanding hand-cut meats.

In late 1995, Chip and Shannon Fudge (Shannon is a relative of Fred Kamp) bought the market and, after a loving restoration, nursed it back

to popularity. They added a coffee bar, a lunch menu, places to sit, and a beefed-up deli and bakery. Even the newly revealed, original tin ceiling gleamed again. "That was the most impressive thing they did," Bill says.

A year and a half ago, the Fudges sold Kamp's to an area restaurateur. That left Bill and cousin Wally Kamp (Henry's grandson and the market's head cashier) to carry on the family tradition. Now that Bill has left to pursue other career options, the butchers at the meat counter will be without a main line descendent of William F. Kamp at their side for the first time ever.

Oklahomans without number have placed orders with the meat market during its ninety-one-year history. And can order still, but without the direct connection to 1910.

—Steffie Corcoran



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Now Open! Kilpatrick

New section opened September 1 that now extends the original Kilpatrick Turnpike from I-35 west to Northwest Highway. The section from Northwest Highway extending south to SW 15th will open around the first of 2001.



Now Open! Creek West

This section connecting the Creek Turnpike at U.S. Highway 75 to the Turner Turnpike near the Sapulpa Interchange opened December 15th, 2000.



Scheduled to Open January 2002!

Creek East & Broken Arrow

This section connecting the the Creek Turnpike at U.S. 69 to the I-44 Interchange of the Will Rogers Turnpike will open around the first of 2002.



Scheduled to Open January 2002!

H. E. Bailey

This section connecting the H.E. Bailey Turnpike in Grady Country to Norman will open in two phases. The first, from Highway 62 to Highway 76, will open in the summer of 2001 while the second, from Highway 76 to the H.E. Bailey will open around the first of 2002.

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